



## Agenda/Notes

Office of Governor Tina Kotek  
RJC Criminal Justice Reform Committee  
October 28, 2025 – Zoom  
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

### MEMBERS

X	Babak Zolfaghari-Azar	X	Nansi Lopez	X	Shaylie Pickrell
X	Cameron Hayes	X	Dr. Nicholas Crapser	X	Sterling Cunio
X	Mariana Urdaneta Sanchez	X	Paul Solomon	X	Tristen Edwards
	Michelle Love		Shay Huber		

### OTHER ATTENDEES

	Andre Bealer	X	Javier Cervantes	X	Melinda Gross, DAS
X	Yasmin Solorio	X	Valerie Colas	X	David Baden, OHA
X	Philip Schmidt, OHA	X	Jessica 'Jessi' Wilson, OHA	X	Kristina Narayan, GO

Topic/Lead	Notes/Main Points	Decisions/Action Items
<b>Welcome/Intro New CJRC Member, Dr. Nicholas Crapser</b>	<i>Meeting initiated at 3:06pm by Tristen. Committee welcomes newest member, Dr. Nicholas Crapser.</i>	
<b>1115 Waiver pause / OHA Update on Waiver David Baden, Jessica Wilson, Phillip Schmidt, OHA</b>	<p><b>Kristina:</b> Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB) allocated programmatic support for 1115 waiver. From Gov. Office perspective, there's been a lot of effort from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) team, stakeholder groups and interagency work (with their other agencies) to figure out the future of this question. Folks don't often see the work behind these conversations and with that appreciation, will turn to Dave for the update.</p> <p><b>Dave:</b> Deputy Director at OHA. Thanks for having us today. Joined by Jessica "Jessi" Wilson in Medicaid division who is leading ongoing work. Phillip Schmidt is Government Relations at OHA.</p> <p>We had a strong push from many to have some services in carceral settings to provide an opportunity for Medicaid reimbursements, for healthcare provided in jail and prisons. Oregon Health Plan (OHP) operates under federal and state guidance. Oregon got relief via Medicaid waiver to provide coverage for individuals. We have new changes in 2027 that are causing us to reprioritize this work. We are unfortunately unable to implement all waiver pieces we had hoped for and will not implement the 1115 Reentry Demonstration as part of Oregon's current 1115 OHP Demonstration Waiver.</p>	

**Paul:** RJC and OHA have expressed priority around eliminating racial health disparities. How does the agency reconcile this decision with post mortality, health access inequity rates? It seems this is a place we should lean into more, rather than step away.

**Dave:** The two big pieces we were unable to climb over were the changes the federal government is putting into the core Medicaid program HR1, such as work requirements, in a year. The additional resources we asked for the federal government to provide so it didn't eat into other things, we didn't get. We are unable to do all the things we planned to do at the time when we put our waiver in and got it approved. There are impacts. There will be people who fall through the cracks because we are not implementing this. The unfortunate piece is having to implement things we didn't ask for - that is driving a lot of the capacity for the state and Medicaid program. I don't want this to be the end of the story. We have future opportunities to think about how we do this.

**Cameron:** You mentioned a lot of carceral settings, are you including state hospital in that?

**Dave:** No, the state hospital falls under a whole set of federal government guidance on what Medicaid can and cannot do in large behavioral health treatment facilities. Its another spot we have explored with federal government where Medicaid could be open to billing or opportunities but have not been successful with the federal government.

**Jessica Wilson:** Impacted facilities include state prisons, county jails, Oregon Youth Authority facilities, and juvenile detention facilities.

**Tristen:** I work in the public defender's office. When I work with clients to get them released, we get them into alcohol and drug treatment a lot of times and have to get them into OHP. Does that get impacted by this?

**Dave:** This would have allowed an expansion of time, up to 90 days prerelease for a lot of those services you mentioned, Tristen. This would have allowed it to expand and add resources to it to bill for more comprehensive than they can't bill for now.

**Tristen:** Waiver expires in 2027 – will some services continue to exist until 2027.

	<p><b>Dave:</b> It never got implemented in the first place and were never able to get it going with federal cut and changes.</p> <p><b>Paul:</b> This has been an issue at the local level for jails across the country – changing Medicaid rules so jails who absorb these costs can shift the costs to Medicaid. Do you anticipate there ever being changes to Medicaid rules instead of getting these waivers?</p> <p><b>Dave:</b> A few states – CA, WA, have waivers similar and billing pieces. Other states have to pause for the same reason Oregon has to pause. There is open conversation with federal government on pieces of this.</p> <p><b>Jessi:</b> Work is not finished. We just will not implement full array we initially intended. We will however be implementing Federal Consolidated Appropriations Act (FCAA). We will not be implementing 1115 Reentry Demonstration. LC will be introduced in 2026.</p> <p><b>Paul:</b> This decision has significant impacts. From RJC standpoint it is troubling. We want to ensure a path forward. What resources does OHA need from GO, legislature, or Feds to restart or redesign effectively?</p> <p><b>Dave:</b> In 2026 we will kick off planning on what the future is so our next waiver request (starting in 2027) and what we want to see part of it. This would have been a really important expansion point and doing more to close coverage gaps for individuals. The conversation for 2026 – should we look at populations differently, look at things differently, could we do this in a more piloted way. Would love RJC thoughts and guidance on where we go from here as we do that.</p> <p><b>Paul:</b> Would love to be a thought partner on this.</p> <p><b>Javier:</b> When do you anticipate this and I can put it on an agenda and start planning for that going forward?</p> <p><b>Dave:</b> Spring or summer of 2026 makes sense.</p> <p><b>Jessi:</b> Spring 2026 makes sense.</p> <p><b>Kristina:</b> All decisions will also trickle through HEHS and I can be proactive in getting the CJRC updated.</p>	
<b>REIS Background</b> <b>Melinda Gross, Office of Cultural Exchange</b>	<p><b>Tristen:</b> Part of the reason we wanted to have this presentation is because we wanted to have background on REIS and what they mean, and look at them more thoughtfully when the time comes.</p>	

*Melinda shares "DAS RJC - REIS Overview (9.18.25)" slides*

**Melidna:** Every agency is required to submit a Racial Equity Impact Statement (REIS) and a budget for their proposals. These are supposed to be in conjunction with the RJC and the aim is to build more equitable budgets, resources, and services. We've only had two rounds of the REIS impact process. This is newer process and not set in stone on how we do it. Will share on what we did before and some gaps on what happened.

'23-25 was the first year it happened. '27 agencies were chosen and were program specific at the time. They submitted their REIS and included 38 questions  
[https://www.oregon.gov/das/Docs/DEI\\_Action\\_Plan\\_2021.pdf](https://www.oregon.gov/das/Docs/DEI_Action_Plan_2021.pdf)

Some agencies shared they loved the process and others did not. 1/3 answered all, 1/3 answered about half, and 1/3 went a different way.

With '25-27, we had all agencies submit an REIS and made it agency specific. We had 4 questions, adapted from the same appendix. We require agencies now to submit a DEI Plan Submission. They also must submit an Affirmative Action Plan Submission, and are requesting a progress report for the 27 agencies who submitted an REIS in the prior biennium. We found out that those who review the REIS statement are budget analysis and requested support for how to analyze it. The people reviewing it don't know what do with them.

**Paul:** From the start the process was fairly opaque as far as what programs the agency was selecting and how they are making those decisions. For example, at DOC, it wasn't clear on how they got to their selection.

**Melinda:** I believe they did get to pick and they picked a newer program as an expansion to the current budget, as I understand it.

**Paul:** Getting this body to wrap around the process. One of our hopes moving forward is there is more runway and can dig a bit deeper into the process.

**Melinda:** Would love that and that is part of my proposal. Will work with CFO office and hope to have a workgroup put together and how we want to approach this REIS.

**Javier:** For the members here, the budget process is the

most influential piece for us. We can highlight voices in what is important.

**Melinda:** Some of the learnings we had:

- Some agencies revised their program approach because of their feedback.
- It's a big commitment for both agencies and RJC.
- Agencies submitted REIS statements but the quality agency to agency varied.
- Room for improvement on how the REIS is used for budgetary proposals.

**Babak:** With what's happening right now, are y'all shifting the work you do in any way and what effect is it having with your work?

**Melinda:** I don't know yet, technically a lot of things are still in litigation and we won't know until that is resolved. A lot of work is in statute, and we are still focusing on DEI but the question is impacts to agencies who are getting federal funding and are largely impacted. Some agencies get really creative on how to bill and do their work, others have had to do a whole overhaul. At the end of the day, we don't do illegal DEI.

**Paul:** Getting clear on those outcomes and the REIS that exists. As CJRC, how can we talk more explicitly around it with this process. There's a lot of value around getting it clear on the outcomes. We know what the disparities are and areas we need to focus on. I heard you ask us for more input, but is this something the legislature needs to codify or is it something your office is able to do in partnership with RJC?

**Melinda:** From what I understand is to go back to the legislature. There isn't a lot of structure around the process.

**DOC Subcommittee Discussion**

**Tristen:** We talked about the DOC subcommittee. We met with men at Oregon State Penitentiary (OSP) and developed a restorative justice program for intimate partner violence. My proposal is because of the size of the committee and who is on, we can absorb the work of the subcommittee. I offered to reach out to some advocacy organizations who are doing work in DOC area. Have two meetings I'm working to schedule – meeting with civil rights attorney who is battling with coffee creek in disciplinary hearings. The second I am working to schedule is with Oregon Justice Resource Center, they've been doing a lot of work on solitary confinement. What can we do to support their work? Some examples could be inviting DOC or coffee creek.

**Babak:** Kevin Mannix has a bill, new prison being built re: OSP and Mike Reese, deflection and substance use and getting folks connected to resources.

**Tristen:** Sounds like the overlap would be tracking of the new prison.

**Paul:** That is a big one we should pay attention to.

**Tristen:** Who at OSP is lead on that?

**Babak:** Shannon White, our deputy director. We are not presently partnering with other agencies to track it.

**Tristen:** I can reach out to her and will aim to have the meeting done before we talk about the committee and supporting efforts.

**Javier:** We will fold in work for DOC subcommittee to CJRC.

**Tristen:** hopefully we can get guest speakers in for our next meeting.

*Meeting concludes at 3:04pm.*

## Meeting Materials



DAS RJC - REIS  
Overview (9.18.25).pc

## Zoom Chat

15:06:23 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

Criminal Justice Reform Committee Oct 28 3 PM):

- Welcome/Introduction
- o New CJRC Member, Dr. Nicholas Crapser- 15 Min
- 1115 Waiver Pause/OHA Update on Waiver- 30 Min
- o David Baden, Jessica Wilson, Philip Schmidt, OHA Presenters
- REIS Background- 30 Min
- o Melinda Gross, Office of Culture Change
- DOC Subcommittee Discussion- 15 Minutes

15:13:07 From Yasmin Solorio, Gov Office (she/her) to Hosts and panelists:

Yasmin Solorio, Executive Assistant with the Gov. Office

15:13:25 From Melinda Gross (she/her) | DAS; Office of Cultural Change to Hosts and panelists:

Hi, so glad to be here! I'm Melinda (she/her), and I work with the Office of Cultural Change at the Department of Administrative Services.

15:13:26 From Valerie Colas (She/her) to Hosts and panelists:

Valerie Colas, Public Safety Advisor, Governor Office

15:14:10 From Babak Zolfaghari-Azar to Hosts and panelists:

@sterling can you email me? Need to make an email intro between you and another ally

15:34:21 From Jessi Wilson (she/her), OHA to Hosts and panelists:

Impacted facilities include state prisons, county jails, OYA facilities, and juvenile detention facilities

15:55:40 From Melinda Gross (she/her) | DAS; Office of Cultural Change to Hosts and panelists:

[https://www.oregon.gov/das/Docs/DEI\\_Action\\_Plan\\_2021.pdf](https://www.oregon.gov/das/Docs/DEI_Action_Plan_2021.pdf)

16:02:13 From Nansi to Hosts and panelists:

I need to hop off. I'll try to finish up quickly and hop back on.

16:05:30 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

From our priorities and agencies:

Engage in Discussion relevant to Racial Equity Impact Statements of various agencies

- Department of Corrections (DOC)
- Oregon Public Defense Commission (OPDC)
- Criminal Justice Commission (CJC)
- Oregon Youth Authority (OYA)
- Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST)
- Board of Parole & Post-Prison Supervision (BPPPS)
- Oregon State Police (OSP)

16:07:29 From Paul Solomon to Hosts and panelists:

Budgets are moral documents and illustrates the values of the state.

16:20:56 From Javier Cervantes, Gov. Office (El, He, Him, His) to Hosts and panelists:

<https://www.doj.state.or.us/oregon-department-of-justice/civil-rights/civil-rights/>

16:44:53 From Yasmin Solorio, Gov Office (she/her) to Hosts and panelists:

Doodle poll: <https://doodle.com/group-poll/participate/enJj2mpe>

16:46:46 From Yasmin Solorio, Gov Office (she/her) to Hosts and panelists:

Doodle poll now includes original date of Dec 23rd

# Racial Equity Impact Statements



Overview & RJC Engagement (9/18/25)

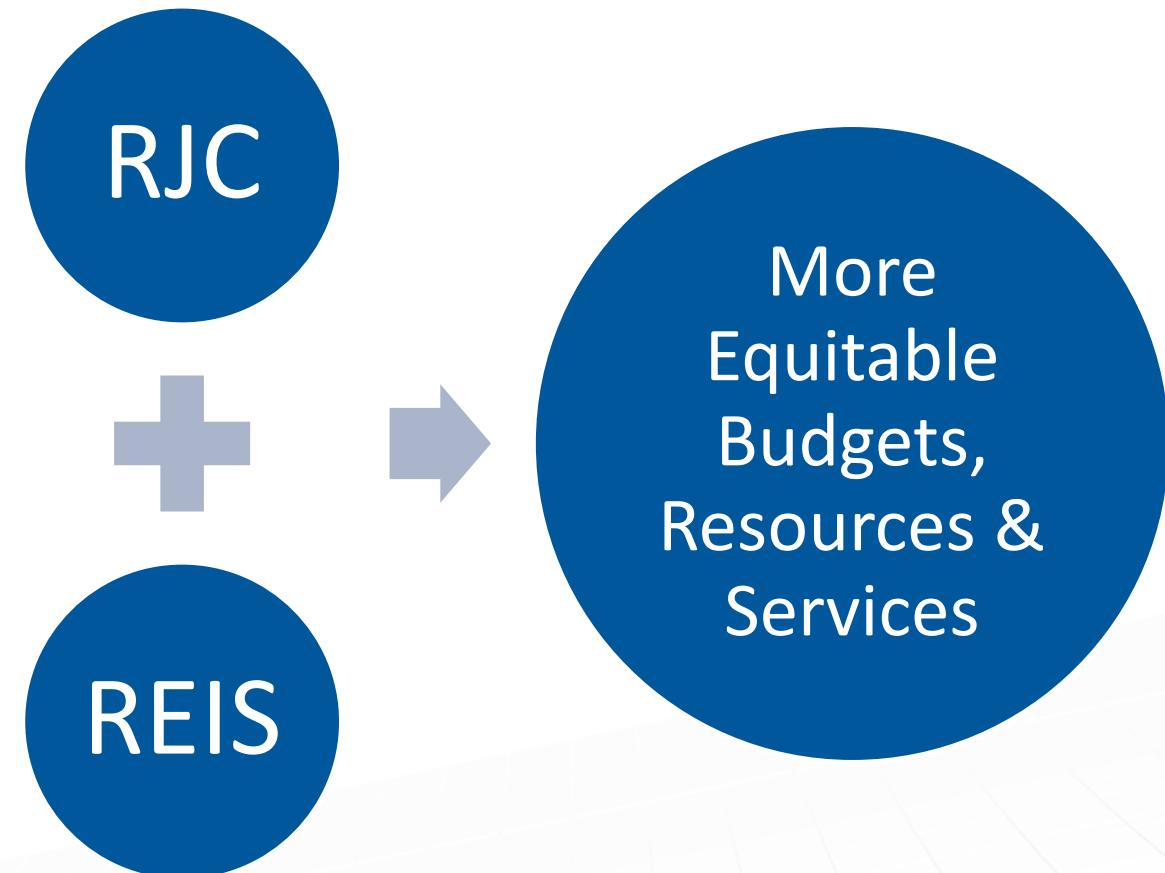
# What is an REIS?

**ORS 291.206:** “As supplemental information, each agency request budget shall include a racial impact statement, which must be developed in consultation with the Racial Justice Council.

The racial impact statement must describe the impact of programs, policies and budget modifications on Oregonians who are Black, Indigenous or other people of color.

[Amended by 1969 c.173 §1; 2016 c.117 §15; 2021 c.612 §4]”

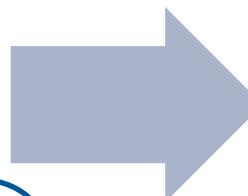
# What is an REIS?



# REIS: Phased Approach

‘23-25

- 27 Agencies, Program Specific
- 38 Questions ([Appendix I, State of OR Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan](#))
- In-Depth Presentations to the RJC and Feedback



‘25-27

- All Executive Branch Agencies (~80), Agency Specific
- 4 Questions (adapted from [Appendix I, State of OR Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan](#))
- DEI Plan Submission
- Affirmative Action Plan Submission
- Progress report for the 27 agencies who submitted an REIS the prior biennium
- OCC Analysis integrated into CFO Budget Analyst recommendations

# Learnings

- RJC presentations & feedback:
  - Meaningful, with some agencies revising their program approach because of the feedback.
  - Big time commitment for both agencies and the RJC.
- Agencies submitted REIS statements, but the quality and information provided varied greatly.
- DEI practitioners completed the REIS portion (if an agency has one). It was not usually a collaborative effort.
- There is room for improvement on how the REIS is used for budgetary proposals.
- Budget analysts have asked for support in reviewing REIS'.
- More clarity around the goal or outcome of an REIS process is needed (e.g. – analysis tool to help shape a budget proposal; tool to review budgets and programs, etc.).
- Agencies need more support in REIS development.

# RJC Engagement

