From: Lauren Goché
To: JWMPS Exhibits
Subject: HB 2355
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I'm contacting you to share my support with HB 2355. It is a bill that would do real good for our state and its citizens that need more protection.

People in Oregon who want to stop profiling by police officers, end the War on Drugs, and reduce deportations. HB 2355 will create a statewide stop data collection system for traffic and pedestrian stops, mandatory anti-profiling training for all law enforcement, and accountability mechanisms for police departments that have patterns of profiling.
HB 2355 will also defelonize small-scale drug possession (decreasing the penalty from a felony, which means prison, to a misdemeanor). The racist War on Drugs fuels profilings and amplifies racial disparities in our criminal justice system: for example, in Oregon, Black people are 2.4 times more likely to be charged for drug offenses than white people, even though use is the same. Instead, HB 2355 will treat drug use and addiction as a public health issue rather than a criminal issue by offering people treatment, not prison.
Lastly, HB 2355 will reduce maximum jail time for a Class A misdemeanor (for example, a DUI) from 365 to 364 days. This is important because ICE can deport folks if they are in jail for 365 days, but not 364. Families don't deserve to be torn apart and people don't deserve to be deported for misdemeanors.

Thank you for listening.

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