From: Lisa Wilson
To: JWMPS Exhibits
Subject: In support of HB 2355
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 12:41:08 PM

Dear Joint SubCommittee on Public Safety,

I am writing in support of HB 2355 ahead of today's hearing.

By creating a statewide system for collecting data on police stops and mandating anti-profiling training for all law enforcement officers, this legislation would provide the resources necessary to adequately enforce Oregon's 2015 law that prohibits profiling by police. In doing so, HB 2355 would help assure those who have been consciously or unconsciously targeted by police -- particularly Oregonians of color -- that their communities are safe in this state.

HB 2355 would also take the necessary step of defelonizing small-scale drug possession, treating drug use and addiction as a public health issue rather than a criminal one and giving people greater access to treatment instead of incarcerating them. This would deescalate the War on Drugs, which currently makes Black Oregonians 2.4 times more likely to be charged with drug crimes than whites, even though drug use rates are essentially the same.

Finally, this legislation would reduce deportations and keep more immigrant families together by reducing the maximum jail time for a Class A misdemeanor and thus restricting ICE's ability to deport immigrants who commit minor crimes.

In all, HB 2355 would take concrete steps to make Oregon more welcoming, inclusive, and safe for people who have faced racial and other bias-based discrimination by law enforcement.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Lisa Wilson

694 NW 94th Ter, Portland, OR 97229

lisa.wilson29@gmail.com