

House Committee of Judiciary Chair Williamson and Committee Members,

My name is Craig McDermott from Hillsboro, OR and I stand opposed to the passage of SB1008-A. Passage of this bill would give currently incarcerated criminals a free pass back into society. Kip Kinkle comes to mind. A disturbed, cold blood murderer, who would once again be set free to kill again. How would you look into the eyes of parents who lost their child to this killer? What do you tell them? How do you justify setting free the man who killed their loved one? And how do you justify this to the people of Oregon, releasing killers back into the population, when the same Oregon Legislature is busy working at making sure Oregonians ability to defend themselves is hindered, restricted and legislated away?

This bill was put to the voters as a referendum on two separate occasions and on both occasions received resounding approval, in 1994 with some 61% of the vote and reaffirmed in 2000 with some 74% of the vote. Being that the people of Oregon have spoken loudly and clearly, I highly recommend it once again be put to the voters and let them decide or reaffirm.

I strongly oppose this legislation and highly recommend that this committee do the same.

Respectfully,

*Craig McDermott
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