



---

**TO: House Committee On Judiciary House Subcommittee On Civil Law**  
**FROM: Mae Lee Browning, Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association**  
**DATE: February 2, 2021**  
**RE: Support for HB 2176 - Eliminating mandatory payment plan fee**

---

Chair Power, Vice Chair Wallan, and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association is an organization of experts, private investigators, and attorneys who represent Oregon's children and parents in juvenile dependency proceedings, youth in juvenile delinquency proceedings, Oregon citizens in criminal prosecutions at the trial and appellate level, as well as civil commitment proceedings throughout the state of Oregon.

Involvement in the criminal legal system and juvenile system has long-lasting consequences on people. Fines and fees associated with court involvement can have a devastating impact on people that affects every part of their daily lives. Black, Indigenous, and communities of color are overrepresented at every stage of a criminal and juvenile proceedings - from arrest to charging to conviction and sentencing. Court fines and fees fall disproportionately on these communities of color.

People who don't have the means to pay their fine immediately should not be charged to set up a payment plan that they truly cannot afford. Repealing the minimum payment plan fee will help make court collections more fair, allowing courts to focus on a person's ability to pay.

**We urge you to vote YES on HB 2176.**

Respectfully submitted by,  
Mae Lee Browning  
Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association