

Dear Senators, I would love to attend the public hearing on proposed SB 191. However, I am not physically able to attend. I would like to make a comment about your proposed bill. As someone who is an outsider of the enforcement and prosecution of crimes falling under the umbrella of Measure 11, it is my longstanding opinion that Measure 11's implementation was wrongly interpreted from the beginning. I can confidently state this because I voted for the original measure and was shocked at how it was misconstrued from the onset. Having said that, nothing can change the many decades of Measure 11's effects. Now is the time to rectify and change how Measure 11 is used. Crime should be punished. However, it is wrong for the justice system to use misinterpreted laws to pressure criminals into taking plea deals that are not always in the best interest of justice. Please modify Measure 11. More importantly, I have a suggestion for you to take under advisement. A citizens review board should be selected from Oregon citizens/voters. That board would review Measure 11 cases to see if prosecutorial wrongdoing is an issue. This review process would enhance the possibilities for a more just process in sentencing. I personally know of many people over the past decades that were victims of prosecutorial questionable behavior.

I hope this helps you. I studied criminal law at Washington State University and I worked with the Washington Department of Corrections, Clallam Bay Corrections Center, when I taught at Peninsula College in Port Angeles Washington.

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