

I strongly support this bill. Minimum sentences are a careless tool that don't allow for a variety of circumstances that make a difference as we consider what a just outcome means. I am a precinct committee person with the Multnomah County Democrats and a core committee member of Portland Books to Prisoners who reads letters written by incarcerated folks every week who share their stories of how they haven't been given a fair trial, fair sentencing, or even a chance to prove their innocence. Down the road, mandatory sentencing will also impede the movement towards restorative justice that represents true progress in resolving criminality-related issues among people.