

I write this testimony in response to the testimony of Mike T. With all due respect, SB 191 was implemented by voters. We, the voters, constituents, support this bill because we have been harmed by Measure 11. Our families suffer the trauma of Measure 11 every day of our lives. We would like to see this measure reformed to give discretion for each case back into the judges' hands. We do believe that people who harm others should indeed face consequences, there is no arguing that. However, each situation is unique unto its own circumstances. Judges who hold the expertise, deserve to discern what punishments should be given based on restorative justice, not arbitrary retribution.

Not only does Measure 11 remove this important insight, but it is fundamentally rooted in racism. According to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission study from 2013-2018, black men are sentenced to prison under Measure 11 four times more than white men. Additionally, according to the State of Oregon Commission on Public Safety Report to the Governor December 17, 2012 study, we the taxpayers/voters, spend more than \$1.3 billion dollars every other year to pay for corrections. As a high school teacher who works with at risk youth, I would surely like to see some of that money go to community programs that prevent crime and incarceration in the first place.

Senators who vote yes on SB 191 are listening to the heartfelt cries of those (who are also voters) who have been harmed by this law. Senators who vote yes on SB 191 are also taking into consideration the dire need our state has for community programs and restorative justice that prevents crime and recidivism in the first place; funneling taxpayer dollars to these much needed programs instead of over-crowded hotspots for communicable disease, hence our current prison system.

As a voter, taxpayer, and outstanding citizen who has been harmed by Measure 11, I give my utmost thanks to those senators who vote yes on SB 191.