

To legislators

4/3/202

RE: **SB191**.

Hello, I would like to take a few minutes to talk about why I support **SB191**. As most of you are aware Measure 11 was approved in 1994. This is when the Tough on crime era was popular, and thought to be the answer in handling crime. We know now 26 plus years later and since Measure 11 has been implemented, this is not the answer. Numerous adults in custody are being handed down long lengthy sentences. Judges do not have the option to review cases under Measure 11 to look over special circumstances that may have been a contributing factor on why they committed their crime in the first place. A few bills are before you this session regarding prison reform or reductions in sentencing guidelines and this is great... long overdue, however **SB 191** is the only bill that is retroactive. Why? Our prison system is already overwhelmed and costly, and Measure 11 can be responsible for some of this for sure. After 26 years, several Adults who are sentenced under measure 11 currently, could start to utilize their good time credits and help to reduce the already overcrowded and costly prison system in Oregon. More and more people believe some of these sentences are cruel punishment and the voters were not aware that Measure 11 would lead to a one strike you are out law. Voters did not realize that a young person could make a stupid mistake and now they are left to pay with over 1/2 their life. Most importantly many of the voters and people I have met to this date were under the impression all adults in custody have a treatment plan and are receiving counseling and rehabilitation. For those of you that are not aware, this is absolutely not happening for inmates charged under measure 11. None have been given a treatment plan like the other adults in custody, they do not have any form of rehabilitation an inmate under measure 11 is just their locked up and left to stagnate. Oregon can do better! Oregon needs to get on board with other states.

SB 191- proposes a reduction in sentence for those that do well while in custody (not murderers of course) or individuals who have committed more offenses while incarcerated, but have earned their good time credits for acceptable, appropriate, pro social behavior while in prison. If they earned it, they deserve to use it! Measure 11 adults in custody are able to see what good time credits they earn each quarter but unfortunately they aren't at this point allowed to utilize them, like the other inmates can. **SB 191**-asks that we apply and allow inmates under Measure 11 to use their good time credits like all other Adults in custody. We are not asking for a change in measure 11 we are asking to amend the law to provide all inmates in custody good time credits if they earn them. We are just asking to mirror what is currently in place for other adults in custody. A relatively simple and quick process could be developed to reduce any costs involved with the process. One of **SB 191** goals is to also reduce

costs to the State of Oregon and the DOC , not add to it. Adults in custody good time credits are already calculated, criteria is already set for other inmates on what is required to receive these credits. , a report can be generated by the prison's Case Managers to confirm the inmates record of conduct since incarceration and review their current risk level. Measure 11 inmates should not have to go back before the courts when all the criteria is met, just a review and click of a button ... The 14th amendment entitles everyone (and should include Measure 11 adults too) a guarantee they will be treated fairly by all those in power, and should have the same rights as other adults in custody which they currently do not have.

SB 191 supports the Adults in custody who have changed, who want to do better, who have motivation and goals to change by doing well inside the prison, that's why **SB 191** is so important it affects the number of inmates currently in the prison system by starting something now or in the very near future. If this bill or others are not retroactive it will not address the current prison populations who are incarcerated currently under measure 11 since Measure 11 went into effect 26 years ago. If proposed bills are not made retroactive they only touch the tip of the iceberg, and do not address overcrowding or rising prison costs.

To get a better idea of the numbers of incarcerated persons that could be affected by approving this bill - (I apologize i do not have 2020 stats) Fact- In Oregon in 2019, there were 6,191 inmates incarcerated under measure 11. This number has only grown in the past two years for sure. Retroactive approaches would help reduce current prison costs dramatically.

Please Join me in supporting **SB 191**- and let's start giving the adults in custody a fair chance to use their good time credits if they have earned them. It's smart all the way around.

Respectively,

LeRoy Lundy -