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Testimony of Arthur Towers

OTLA Political Director

**In Support of the -1 Amendment to SB 193**

Before the Senate Committee on Judiciary

April 6, 2021

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the -1 amendment to Senate Bill 193.

The amendment removes statutory provisions found unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court and the Oregon Supreme Court. These unconstitutional provisions include:

- a. the compensation cap on damages in private sector injury cases
- b. guilty verdicts rendered by non-unanimous juries.

In regard to the compensation cap in injury cases, the committee has heard testimony in prior sessions from victims of child sex abuse, racial discrimination, sexual assault, medical negligence, and injuries from defective equipment. These are the sorts of Oregonians whose rights will be protected going forward.

The effective date language regarding the injury cap in Section 2 on page 2 of the amendment clarifies that cases that have reached a final judgement or settlement will be unaffected.

We urge a YES vote on the -1 amendments.