

TO: Senate Committee, on Judiciary and
Ballot Implementation
900 Court Street N.E. Room # 453
SALEM, OREGON - 97301 -

Date: March 29th, 2021

Hello to All of you,

My Name is Gerald Dean Skelton, Sr. I am Incarcerated at Snake River Correctional Institution, in Ontario, Oregon. I have been at O.S.P. when I first came to D.O.C and while waiting to come to Department of Corrections, I was in the Klamath County Jail in Klamath Falls, Oregon back on Sept 2nd, 1995 for 10 months, and I have been locked sense I fell when I, was 52 years old, I am now 77 yrs, of age, and been down 26 yrs.

I have also been working here at S.R.C.I., sense March 15, 1997, which I will start my 25th year at the Physical Plant here at S.R.C.I., which was the 15th day of March 2021. I had one DR for a pair of shoes my friend gave me when he went home, other then that I have not had any bad conduct sense I have been locked up. This is why I am writing you this letter in regards to "Ballot Measure" 191 and making "Measure 11 Retro Active as well as 30% good and earned Time also"

I think Adults in custody should be awarded Good Time only if its earned, not everyone should be awarded good time. Just the ones who have "worked Hard and stay the course obeying Department of Corrections rules.

I read in James Allen "As A Man Thinketh," Man is always the Master even in his weaker and most abandoned state; in his weakness and degradation he is the foolish master who misgoverns his "household;" when he begins to reflect upon his condition, and to search diligently for the law upon which his being is established, he then becomes the wise master, directing his energies with intelligence and fashioning his thoughts to fruitful issues, such is the conscious Master.

And man can only thus become by discovering within himself the laws of thoughts; which discovery is totally a matter of application, self analysis, and experience, only by much searching and mining are gold and diamonds obtained, and man can find every truth connected with his being, if he will dig deep into the mine of his soul; and that he is the maker of his character, the molder of his life, and the builder of his destiny.

He may unerringly prove, if he will watch, control, and alter his thoughts, tracing their effects upon himself, upon others, and upon his life and circumstances, linking cause and effect by patient practice and investigation, and utilizing his every experience, even to the most trivial, every day occurrence, as a means of obtaining that knowledge of himself which is understanding, wisdom, power. In this direction, as in no other, is the Law Absolute that

"He that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened;" for only by patience, practice and ceaseless opportunity can a man enter the door of the Temple of Knowledge.

With that said Department of Correction Institutional Risk score points these individuals out clearly. Custody classification also points out the trouble makers and who don't care. Were not asking that mandatory minimums be abolished, God No! were asking for goodtime for those of us who deserve it. When i write this i keep in mind not only my family but yours too. We have to thank and consider everyone involed in this type of decision.

I would not want to be the one who advocates for a law that could some where down the line possibly get someone hurt who is innocent, maybe a family member, or friend. I have been down that road myself. However, i have came to know alot of Adults in custody over the years i've spent incarcerated i am a pretty good judge of character when it come's to those who are truthful and those who are not.

As I have; Department of Correction's knows who in there custody both good and bad. I want to thank all of you before hand for giving me the chance to let all accept my Testimony about Ballot Measure 191 and Measure 11 possibly giving us 30% percent good time, and earned time, possibly Retro Active also. May God Bless All of you and your families.

Sincerely, Gerald D. Skelton, Sr.

From: S.R.C.I. Gerald D. Skelton, Sr. #2386639

777 Stanton Blvd.

Ontario, Oregon - 97914-0595-

P.S. God has forgiven me, Amen