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Chair Smith Warner, Vice-Chairs Drazan and Holvey and Members of the House Rules Committee:

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon urges your support of HB 2002-4.

Working with over 150 congregations, organizations, and interfaith partners, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) strives to envision communities of faith in partnership creating a more peaceful, just, sustainable, and compassionate world. EMO works with and for Oregonians through direct service programming, dialogue, and advocacy.

EMO stands with leaders in Oregon's Black community, for whom HB 2002 represents a decades-old call for change. We know that Black Oregonians are disproportionately policed, and face the highest chance of being killed by police. In Portland, police arrest Black individuals at a per capita rate 4.3 times higher than white people.¹²³ HB 2002-4 would limit the stops and arrests that so often tragically result in the killing of Black Oregonians.

HB 2002-4 would also invest in victims services and in our communities, abolish supervision fees, provide a pathway to earn a reduction in the length of one's supervision and ensure that Oregon continues to be a leader in restorative justice.

In accordance with our statement of social principles and as people of faith, EMO seeks a "government and social order that is founded on principles of human dignity and political equality, is responsive to human needs and aspirations, sustains robust civic participation and religious freedom, and furthers social justice and the common good."

Undoubtedly, this includes necessary and comprehensive change. We thank you for your work and for your consideration of this essential legislation that will bring about the change Oregon needs.

In partnership,

Britt Conroy

Public Policy Director

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

¹ <https://multco.us/file/92543/download>

² <https://www.wweek.com/news/2020/12/23/before-george-floyds-death-black-portlanders-were-killed-by-cops-at-a-disproportionate-rate/>

³ <https://www.opb.org/article/2021/02/07/portland-has-5th-worst-arrest-disparities-in-the-nation-according-to-data/>