



MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING
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DATE: January 31, 2021

TO: Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Cate Duke, MADD Oregon

SUBJECT: SB 217

Dear Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to you today not only on behalf of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, but on behalf of all the mothers, fathers, grandparents, and children who are injured and killed in our state every year by impaired drivers. Mothers Against Drunk Driving absolutely supports the fix that SB 217 provides in regards to the Guzman decision, which states that a person charged with DUII in Oregon cannot be held accountable for DUII's in other states, unless the laws are essentially identical, when it comes to sentencing and enhancement purposes.

This could create a situation where a repeat DUII driver could move to Oregon and be charged as a first time offender if the state the offender was previously sentenced in did not have the same definition of DUII as Oregon. This presents a significant danger to our communities in the event a repeat offender continues to drive impaired on Oregon roads, and could rob victims of proper justice if prior convictions in other states are not taken into consideration at sentencing.

This bill restores how previous out-of-state DUII convictions are analyzed so that courts can take those into consideration when sentencing a defendant whose criminally dangerous driving behavior continues on Oregon roadways. Please do not make it easier for repeat impaired driving offenders to avoid accountability for their actions, thereby also denying victims of receiving the justice they deserve.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cate Duke
Programs Manager
MADD Oregon