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Oregon PTA
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Portland, Oregon 97206

Honorable Senator Floyd Prozanski
Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation
Oregon State Senate
900 Court St., NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for SB 575: Juvenile Expunction Reform

Dear Senator Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher and members of the committee,

Oregon PTA supports the passage of Senate Bill 575 (Senators Dembrow, Manning Jr, Lieber) to reform Oregon's juvenile expunction process and remove barriers that keep youth from moving forward as they transition to adulthood.

Oregon PTA has a history of advocacy for over 100 years. In that time we have advocated for justice for children and youth including the earliest days of creating a "juvenile justice" system. We support the opportunity for young people to reform from acts as a child or youth and recognition that a second chance opens doors to success.

Juvenile records create collateral consequences that can indefinitely forestall a youth's ability to become a productive adult, limiting access to housing, employment, school enrollment, college admission, and professional licensure. These collateral consequences potentially cost taxpayers in the form of lost wages and increased justice system expenditures.

SB 575 is specific and focused in streamlining the process for youth who have had a record created but have not been referred to the juvenile court or resulted in conviction. It makes the process less prohibitive to get a fresh start and help the youth move forward in life.

SB575 refines a complicated process and reduces costs to the young person looking for a fresh start. Expunction plays an important part in that opportunity.

Oregon PTA urges a YES vote on SB 575.

Sincerely,

Scott Overton
Oregon PTA vice president for legislation
