

I support SB 571 because increasing access to participation in our democratic processes will create higher social cohesion and lower recidivism. At a time when so many people have been imprisoned for non-violent crimes, we need to embrace community members who are attempting to re-enter society with every tool available. Voting is a sacred act for citizens. If we believe that offenders have paid off their so-called debt to society, we must truly embrace them as an equal stakeholder in the makeup of an engaged electorate. The legislature must pass SB 571 now to bolster equity in civic life.