



Elona J. Wilson
Portland, Oregon

February 3, 2022

RE: Support for SB 1510 - Transforming Criminal Justice

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation,

For the record my name is Elona J Wilson, I use she/her pronouns, and I am the Executive Director of Next Up Action Fund which works to amplify the voice and leadership of diverse young people to build political power and fight for a more just and equitable Oregon. I also am on the Board for Women First Transition and Referral - which provides re-entry services for mainly Black women returning from prison to rebuild their lives. As the daughter of folks who were in and out of prison and addiction services, and the first to break the generational cycle of poverty and addiction, this work is personal for me and I am here to strongly support SB 1510.

I am a member of the Transforming Justice Coalition that brought HB 2002 forward last session and have been a partner in the development of SB 1510. The Transforming Justice Coalition is a group of people impacted by the criminal justice system, service providers, and policy advocates, who came together to make necessary changes to Oregon's public safety system.

After it was determined that HB 2002 needed more work last session, Senator Prozanski convened a workgroup to determine how we could all work together to move this comprehensive policy forward. Members of the law enforcement community, numerous state agencies, and members of the Transforming Justice Coalition were all participants. The coalition appreciates Senator Prozanski's successful efforts to create a "safe space" for impacted people to participate, many of whom are unfamiliar with the "inner workings" of the Legislature.

The workgroup product is split into three broad categories, with each section containing a few specific policies:

Reduce unnecessary interactions with law enforcement with changes to how stops and searches are made.

A requirement that when an officer pulls someone over and requests to search a vehicle, the officer notifies the person that has been pulled over that they have the right to decline a search. This would be similar to a Miranda warning.

A policy that makes certain traffic violations “secondary offenses,” meaning that someone cannot be pulled over for such a violation but can be cited for it if they are pulled over for something else. The specific equipment violations that this policy would apply to are called out in the bill, and they are:

- One broken tail light and the other is working
- One brake light is out but the other is working
- One headlight out but the other is working
- A broken license plate light

Ensuring people on probation and parole are set up for success.

It will align the conditions of supervision with state drug laws (instead of federal) to reflect the legalization of Marijuana in Oregon. Additionally, the bill directs DOC to hold a rulemaking process to determine when an officer can visit a person at their workplace and when they cannot; these rules will also cover when certain people on supervision can report to their parole or probation officer remotely. The bill will also require trauma-informed and culturally specific training for parole and probation officers.

Investing in culturally-specific organizations and culturally-responsive service providers through the creation of the Justice Reinvestment Equity Program.

The CJs HB 3064 report showed that culturally-specific programs are being overlooked by the JRI. NWHF, who has relationships with culturally-specific organizations throughout the state, will administer this program and distribute funds directly to culturally-specific organizations and culturally responsive providers.

On behalf of Next Up Action Fund and the Transforming Criminal Justice Coalition, I urge you to take action by voting yes SB 1510 so that communities across Oregon will have better access to the resources they need to begin to feel safe, heal, and rebuild their lives.

Thank you,

Elona J Wilson
Executive Director