



February 2, 2022

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 1510. My name is Ira Cuello-Martinez and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of PCUN, Oregon's Farmworker Union. At PCUN, we work to improve the working conditions and lives of farmworkers and Latinx families through community building, organizing, and policy advocacy.

The communities we work with have faced several instances of overcriminalization due to their race, ethnicity, or immigration status. We believe that every Oregonian deserves to feel safe and be treated with dignity. Unfortunately, many of us, including Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and other people of color, feel vulnerable and unprotected.

Transforming Justice 2022 (SB 1510) will reduce the legal system's disproportionate harm to Black, Indigenous, and Latinx Oregonians in three major ways. First, the policy will reduce racial disparities in traffic stops by making a broken headlight, taillight, brake light, or license plate light a "secondary offense." The policy will also improve success for people on probation and parole by initiating a rulemaking process that can prevent, in some instances, parole and probation officers from visiting the people they supervise at work. Lastly, this will create the Justice Reinvestment Equity Program in order to change how public safety dollars are invested and ensure communities across Oregon have better access to the resources they need to feel safe, heal, and rebuild their lives

Transforming Justice aims to shift the harm caused by the legal system by ensuring people have the adequate resources and opportunities to succeed. As an organization that serves Latinx and immigrant families, we have a responsibility to advance racial justice in our state.

On behalf of PCUN, we urge you to support SB 1510 and enact these critically needed changes for a public safety system rooted in racial equity, accountability, healing, and opportunity.

Thank you,

Ira Cuello-Martinez
Policy Manager
PCUN