

Submitter: Monique DeSpain
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB579

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and committee members.

My name is Monique DeSpain, and I am General Counsel for Common Sense for Oregon.

The guaranteed abuse of any system in which ballots are distributed and collected from imprisoned people is reason enough to oppose SB 579. However, the basic principle of incarceration must, perhaps, be re-emphasized here. The whole point of incarceration is that an individual, as a natural consequence for their crimes committed, is restricted, and loses freedom and several rights, until their sentence is completed. The temporary restriction from free movement, including the ability to privately avail oneself of a voter's ballot and a ballot box, is just one of many consequences of imprisonment. I encourage you to support the criminal justice system by voting NO on SB 579.

Sincerely,
Monique DeSpain