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To: Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Re: Support for Consistent Community Supervision, SB 581  
Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Latino Network was founded in 1996 by advocates for the needs of the growing Latinx community in Multnomah County. Since then, these grassroots beginnings have evolved into a continuum of services that support Latinx individuals, families, and communities. Our programs currently focus on education, advocacy & leadership, health & wellness, economic justice, youth empowerment & violence prevention, and arts & culture, engaging nearly 11,000 community members in the last year. We are the leading culturally-specific provider for Latinx youth, parent, and family services in the Portland area with the goal of serving the nearly 19% of Oregon's population who identify as Latinx or Hispanic.

Latino Network currently provides direct services to youth and families in Senate Districts 13 and 19-25 and House Districts 25, 37 and 42-50.

We provide direct support to families impacted by the legal system. We engage the whole family to address the collateral consequences of the criminal legal system in people's lives.

Earned Discharge is a program that has the capabilities of recognizing and celebrating progress and stability - but only if it is accessible and clearly understandable.

People pay for their offenses over and over again. From their arrest, trial and the trauma of incarceration, to years if not decades of being denied housing, employment, volunteer roles and other opportunities due to their record. We have so many ways to punish people, but not nearly enough ways to help people heal.

We know firsthand at Latino Network, when we focus on people's strengths and work towards stability, we can see long-term health and wellness for individuals, families and communities. This person-center and trauma informed approach is a value that is held by many community based providers - it can and should be a shared value of the parole and probation system.

By fixing the inconsistencies that currently exist in the Earned Discharge program we are one step closer to living those shared values because public safety is achieved when we invest in what is right and good in people.

Consistent community supervision builds safer communities. We urge you to support SB 581.