

Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2023

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Reimagine Oregon

Re: Support for Consistent Community Supervision, SB 581

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

My name is Justice Rajee. I am Director of Reimagine Oregon. Reimagine Oregon is an accountability project led by Black leaders to begin the end of systemic racism in Oregon.

I am a part of the Transforming Justice Coalition: a group of people who are directly impacted by the criminal justice system, culturally specific service providers and policy advocates coming together to reimagine how our public safety system functions. We believe Oregon should have a fairer and more effective justice system that ensures safety, success, racial equity, and healing.

Prior to my current role, I served youth and families involved with the criminal justice system as a case manager and later as a program manager in the Community Healing Initiative at POIC (Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center). In that time, I provided direct services to families with youth on supervision, adults on supervision, and especially young men on adult supervision returning to the community from custody. That experience informs my understanding. It is vital that our community members on supervision see the progress they are making in their lives, their families, and in their communities reflected in the management of their supervision.

Consistent supervision means safer communities. By making earned discharge eligibility requirements consistent for people who are on parole, probation, and post-prison supervision we can build on people's strengths, honor their work to reconnect with their community, while promoting stable homes, families, and economies.

Please support SB581 for the benefit of our community. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Justice Rajee

Director Reimagine Oregon

The logo for Reimagine Oregon features the word "Reimagine" in a serif font, followed by "Oregon" in a sans-serif font. The letter "R" is significantly larger and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke that extends to the left and curves under the word "Reimagine".

