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**TO: House Committee on Judiciary**  
**FROM: Mae Lee Browning, Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association**  
**DATE: February 9, 2023**  
**RE: SUPPORT for HB 2224 - Increase Juror Pay & Mileage Rates**

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Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Wallan and Andersen, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Mae Lee Browning. I represent the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. OCDLA's 1,200 members statewide include public defense providers, private bar attorneys, investigators, experts, and law students. Our attorneys represent Oregon's children and parents in juvenile dependency proceedings, youth in juvenile delinquency proceedings, adults in criminal proceedings at the trial and appellate level, as well as civil commitment proceedings throughout the state of Oregon. Our mission is championing justice, promoting individual rights, and supporting the legal defense community through education and advocacy.

**I am testifying in support of HB 2224.**

A representative jury panel is essential to a fair trial. Due to Oregon's history, there is a very low likelihood that there will be a representative jury panel for people faced with criminal charges who are Black, Indigenous, Latine, and other people of color. However, there are steps we can take to the lower barriers to jury service in the hopes of trying to achieve a more representative jury panel.

Increasing the rate of pay and mileage reimbursement is one step that the Oregon Judicial Department can take to increase access to justice for the community. Mileage reimbursement will be tied to the federal rate. The rate of pay will increase from \$10/day to \$50/day for the first two days of jury service. For the third and subsequent days, the rate of pay will increase from \$25/day to \$60/day.

There are other steps that Oregon can take to reduce barriers to jury service, but these steps are what the Oregon Judicial Department can make now.

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