

Submitter: Samuel McElroy

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Public  
Safety

Measure: SB5505

FOR NON-OREGON RESIDENTS

February 11th, 2023

Dear Oregon Legislative Assembly's Ways and Means Public Safety Subcommittee,

My name is Samuel McElroy. I am writing to express my support for continued funding of the Criminal Justice Commission's Restorative Justice Grant Program (RJGP). As you consider the agency's 2023-2025 budget, I strongly urge you to consider the positive impacts this program has, and will continue to have, in Oregon. In 2021, the legislature took an important step by investing in restorative justice and its use as an alternative to prosecution.

I care about Oregon continuing to fund and expand RJGP because restorative justice...

provides victims and survivors with a valuable option for healing and accountability. There are strong benefits for everyone involved: the survivor, the person responsible for the harm, and the broader community.

empowers people to acknowledge, take responsibility for and work towards repairing the harm they caused.

Data from programs across America and the globe demonstrates high levels of success related to increased survivor satisfaction rates, lowered recidivism rates, and lowered costs when compared to criminal justice responses.

In conclusion,

Oregon has been a national leader in restorative justice programming, and should continue to be by funding the Criminal Justice Commission's Restorative Justice Grant Program.

I believe that it is very important for Oregon to continue funding alternatives to prosecution and incarceration like restorative justice.

Continued funding for the Criminal Justice Commission's Restorative Justice Grant Program would demonstrate to me that the legislature is committed to addressing the racial injustice in our criminal legal system.

I strongly believe that the legislature should continue funding the Criminal Justice Commission's Restorative Justice Grant Program.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Samuel A. McElroy