

Submitter: Diane McMillan  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: SB1070

I am writing in support of SB 1070. I sincerely believe that justice system that does not take into account domestic violence as a mitigating factor cannot be truly just. It is unfair for a women to be judged without regard to her circumstances, especially circumstances as extreme as living under the threat of violence from one's intimate partner. How can a just decision be made without taking into account the fear and terror a woman feels when threatened by a man who has beaten her before; or when she is put in a position where she is driven to act violently or to steal in order protect her children, or her own life? A woman who commits a criminal act to escape a violent man, or to protect her children, is not a danger to society in the same way as a person who commits the same violent act when under no threat. It takes only common sense and basic humanity to know that this is true. As a citizen of Oregon, as a human being, and as a woman, I urge you to support SB 1070 and pass it out of committee with a "Do Pass" recommendation.