

Submitter: Michelle Casey  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: SB1070

As a resident of Oregon, and a child to a parent who has experienced several incarcerations from substance abuse, I am in full support of SB 1070. This bill provides the necessary reforms needed to take into account the nuance of the human experience - and coercion - which often leads people to commit crimes that they might not have otherwise committed. This bill would allow judges to take into account the personal circumstances of the individual, and would allow judges to be able to issue a lesser ruling.

This bill protects individuals, children, and families who have been or who in the future may be, be affected by an unjust criminal justice system. If the judges in my father's cases could have taken into account the situational circumstances, perhaps my dad would not have had harsher punishments or mandatory minimums. Nor would I have had a parent missing for significant portions of my life.

I urge the Senate Committee on Judiciary to vote unanimously to pass this bill.

I am a LA for Representative Jules Walters, however, this testimony is mine alone as a citizen and resident of Oregon. My testimony does not reflect the views of Rep. Walters office.