

Support Guaranteeing the Right to Vote, SB 579
Ways and Means Roadshow

Hello members of the committee,

My name is Ashley Wilcoxson, I am a senior in highschool who lives in Portland. I am writing to testify my firm support of funding Guaranteeing the Right to Vote, SB 579.

The cost of democracy is priceless. Voting is a right that cannot and should not be taken away from any citizen. No matter your race, area code, or income, every Oregonian should have an equal say in what happens in our state and our community. As a state, Oregon incarcerates 555 people per 100,000,¹ and it would cost very little to reinstate voting rights by 2026 for all people that are incarcerated. It is our duty to ensure voting access for all eligible Oregonians, and this is our opportunity to do so.

I implore committee members to take action on this foremost issue. Please ensure that Guaranteeing the Right to Vote, SB 579, is fully funded and passed out of committee. Thank you for your time and perusal.

Much obliged,
Ashley Wilcoxson

¹ <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/profiles/OR.html>