

Submitter: Michaela Hammer
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure: SB5506

Dear Chair Steiner, Chair Sanchez, and members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Michaela Hammer and I live in Marcola, Oregon, where I run a small plant nursery. I am writing to express my support for continued funding of the Criminal Justice Commission's Restorative Justice Grant Program (RJGP).

I care about Oregon continuing to fund the Restorative Justice Grant Program because restorative justice provides victims and survivors with a valuable option for healing and accountability and it promotes community, public safety, and healing for survivors of harm. Oregon needs more approaches to harm that do not involve incarceration or conviction, and community based alternatives to prosecution are dramatically less expensive than the current system.

As a resident of Lane County, it is important to me that restorative justice continues to be practiced in my community because I feel safer knowing that this option is available to survivors and people who commit harm.

I am proud to live in a state that is a national leader in restorative justice programming. Funding the Criminal Justice Commission's Restorative Justice Grant Program would demonstrate to me that the legislature is committed to creating more equitable approaches to harm that center the needs of survivors. Please continue your support for the RJGP.

Sincerely,
Michaela Hammer