

Submitter: Isabela Villarreal

On Behalf Of: Franklin Widdifield

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Measure: Support Guaranteeing the Right to Vote, SB 579

3-11-23

1. I have never voted, I have been a felon since early teenage years. Plus I never believed that my voice would be heard.
2. 100% I do support Legislation, I believe it is pushing issues that are important in moving forward in a good way.
3. Us serving time in Prison have a voice too, but more importantly we know what works and what doesn't. Not all who are incarcerated are bad people, we made bad choices that led us to be here, and our voices should be heard. Where we have been a part of the problem, we also can be a part of a solution.
4. Voting matters to me because I believe that All voices matter. We are also affected by the laws that are passed.
5. Being incarcerated is not easy and makes you feel unvalued. We are inside Prisons that dehumanize us in every aspect, offer very few programs for self betterment and unlike their name Department of Corrections, they

do little as far as correcting which is why the Recidivism Rate for Oregon is so high. Voting is critical for us incarcerated because we have a clear understanding of what is really going on.

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I would tell Legislation that Consecutive Sentencing and Measure 11 has to be a priority for some type of change. I was sentenced to 426 months in a Robbery, kidnapping case 4-28-1998 out of Coos County where all of my charges were ran wild. I had just turned 24 years old.

I know that the reasons for laws is to protect the public. my only argument is that if lifers are given a chance / consideration for parole after 25 years, then why would Measure 11 not be given some type of consideration for some relief.

It is clear, if AICs who are sentenced under Measure 11 aren't given any consideration for relief, then they don't educate, or program while

incarcerated and ultimately leave prison the same person, only more bitter.

If you were to offer good time for those incarcerated for Clear Conduct, Programming you would see the Recidivism Rate drop and Institution Dynamics would change practically where those incarcerated would start caring about how they spend their time.

I am now 49 years old, have 9 years clear conduct, have attained three State Certifications through MHACBO as a CADCI, CRM, CCRM, and even though I'm doing the right things, I do not get any consideration for relief because I was sentenced under Measure 11.

Measure 11 excludes us from most Programs, education and self-betterment, and we are the ones that should be given opportunity to make change so that we don't continue with this cycle.

My name is Franklin Widdifield and I

Pray my words are heard, I have
been in contact with Tawna Sanchez
and Jon Pugsley for years and have
conveyed this to them also.

Thank you kindly

Franklin Widdibald