



**To:** Joint Subcommittee On Public Safety

**Date:** February 20, 2025

**RE:** Support for SB 938 &

Dear Members of the Senate Committee On Judiciary

I am writing on behalf of the Restorative Justice Coalition of Oregon (RJCO) to provide our full support for the passage of SB 938.

Over the last four years, the Oregon Legislature has helped fund the development of some of the most innovative, victim-led, community-driven and impactful public safety programs ever developed in our state. From coastal communities in Lincoln County, to Medford and Grants Pass, from Bend to Wasco County and the Columbia Gorge, from Lane and Marion counties up through Washington, Portland and Clackamas, there are now 15 local programs working hand-in-hand with law enforcement, District Attorneys, Victim Advocates and a myriad of community partners to help deliver justice, safety and accountability without resorting to incarceration.

Restorative Justice is has shown, time and time again, to deliver some of the highest levels of victim (harmed party) and offender (responsible party) satisfaction of *any* criminal justice system intervention or response. Academic studies in both American and internationally have repeatedly found an average of 85% satisfaction and positive outcome rate for all parties involved.

Having invested in local Restorative Justice programs serving communities across all of Oregon, now is the time to pass SB 938 to both continue this impactful work and to allow for the statewide coordination of these efforts. This will ensure that these services can be supported with technical assistance, best-practice models, information sharing and expertise. Without this statewide coordination, I fear Oregon's investments over the last four years could easily go to waste.

The passage of SB 938 is one more step towards Oregon being a national leader in innovative, impactful and community-based responses to harm and crime.

Again, I urge you to support SB 938.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Simon Fulford", written over a horizontal line.

**Simon Fulford**  
**President**