

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Matthew Hartman and I live in Damascus, Oregon. I am the co-founder and Director of a social enterprise called Just Outcomes Consulting, Inc, a consultancy that supports communities and organizations in reimagining just responses to harm and its causes. We have worked with agencies across Oregon, including Multnomah County Community Justice, Oregon Youth Authority, and Jackson County Juvenile Justice in implementing a restorative approach within their agencies and for their staff and those they serve. I am writing to express my support for restorative justice and for SB 938. It is important to have stable funding and a well-resourced coalition to support this important work.

I care about Restorative Justice because it is an effective, pragmatic, and principled approach to addressing the many misalignments that exist between an outdated criminal justice system and Oregon's current ethos and culture. In addition to being an approach that brings more care, compassion and effectiveness to those that are impacted by harm and responsible for harm, restorative justice also:

- provides victims and survivors with a valuable option for healing and accountability;
- provides relief to overburdened courtrooms and judges;
- promotes community, public safety, and healing for survivors of harm;
- saves taxpayers money through more productive criminal justice outcomes;
- works to address disproportionality within our system;
- empowers people to acknowledge, take responsibility for and work towards repairing the harm they caused; and,
- provides hope to those within the system, that their efforts can yield results in creating a safer public space.

Thank you for taking the time to receive my testimony and please vote yes on SB 938.

Sincerely,



Matthew Hartman

Director

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