

Submitter:

Loretta Carl

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1120

So many of our incarcerated in Oregon are being treated like animals instead of like human beings who deserve a 2nd chance. From the food, to the lack of medical care to the lack of resources to make a better life for themselves and their families when they emerge on the "freedom" side of incarceration, our prisoners deserve so much better than they are getting.

What is the purpose of incarceration in Oregon? Is it to see how harshly we can punish our fellow humans? Or is it to make sure that when they come out the other side that they are better humans and better neighbors? I'd vote for the latter. I don't care about how much we can punish them. I just want them to be better humans. And we don't accomplish that goal by treating them badly. We accomplish that goal by showing them a better way. By educating them, by empathy and by resources. As long as they are in prison, let's take this opportunity to show them how to live a better life.

We sent Oregon guards to Norway to learn from them. Has any of those things learned been put to use? Do the guards in our facilities interact with and show more empathy towards our AICs? Do we allow them more family time? Do we send them out to work in the communities more?

Let's do better Oregon. Let's make it so our AICs go out of the prison system better than when they went in.