

Submitter: Mae Lee Browning  
On Behalf Of: Attorney Bear Wilner-Nugent from Portland  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB178

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee members,

As an Oregon criminal defense lawyer since 2004 who has spent all but three of those years in private practice, I write to oppose SB 178, which would charge lawyers like me large and arbitrary fees just so our clients can exercise their constitutional rights to see the evidence against them. Providing discovery at state expense is the right move, because it is the state that controls the evidence that becomes discovery materials, and it is the state that must carry a burden of proof in any prosecution. Requiring prosecutors' offices to share discovery expeditiously and without charge will result in more cases resolving earlier and more conclusively. Passing SB 178 would only lead to still more delay in our crowded criminal system. Please oppose this bill and avoid the extra trouble it would cause.

Respectfully,

Bear Wilner-Nugent  
Counselor and Attorney at Law LLC  
Portland, Oregon 97204