

Members of the House Rules Committee,

I am writing as a resident of Lane County, to urge your immediate support for SB1516A.

Our Asian community in Lane County, as well as many other communities, have been systematically targeted by professional burglary rings based in South America. These burglary rings were confirmed and discussed in a town hall in Eugene, OR in October 2025. State prosecutors, the mayor of Eugene, the Lane County Sheriff, and the Eugene and Springfield police chiefs all confirmed that this burglary ring has been targeting Asian households within our communities, and has been doing so for years with many of the accused unfortunately fleeing and avoiding justice.

These burglary rings are sophisticated and methodical within their process – using trackers, posing as service workers, and often disabling home security systems, as well as using wireless signal jammers to disrupt surveillance systems. All of these on their own are crimes, but some of all of these tactics have been used within the targeted burglaries.

The burglary rings have been exploiting loopholes within our legal systems to circumvent due process, and denying the victims of these targeted burglaries, as well as having a blatant disregard for our legal systems that are one of the backbones of our society. Families who have had their possessions, valuables, and sense of security within their own homes and being denied justice and due process, as many of the burglars are using loopholes in our valued legal system to post bail, and flee the country.

SB1516A has the goal to provide a solution to this injustice occurring to the victims of our communities in situations such as these. The bill allows the judges a level of flexibility to consider a defendant's danger to the community, and likelihood of fleeing before the trial; a level of flexibility that is crucial to ensuring that due process and justice for all may take place. The bill sends a message to criminals that loopholes to justice are not exploited, and that the due process that is fundamental to our legal system, is applicable to both victims, as well as the accused. Allowing these loopholes to be in place are withholding the opportunity for victims of crimes to receive well-deserved closure, and for the accused to provide their opportunity of defense against accusations. With these examples and reasons above, I would insist that you vote YES on SB1516A, to protect victims, as well as the system of law and order that we value as a country, state, and community.

Sincerely,
James Worley