

I am testifying in support of SB 1516A because its pretrial release provision is critically important for the safety and security of Oregon's Asian American and Pacific Islander community, and all residents of Oregon.

Over the past, residents across Oregon—including in Lane County—have been repeatedly targeted by organized burglary rings. These crimes are not isolated or opportunistic; they are coordinated, multi-jurisdictional, and designed to generate profit while avoiding accountability. As documented by the Asian American Council of Oregon and reflected in law enforcement reporting and court filings, repeated pretrial releases followed by flight have deprived victims of any opportunity for justice and have allowed this pattern of crime to continue unchecked.

Community members who have not been burglarized describe ongoing fear and a loss of trust in the justice system when defendants are released despite clear indicators of flight risk and community danger.

SB 1516A does not mandate detention or roll back due process protections; it restores judges' ability to make individualized determinations based on real-world risk. Allowing courts to consider flight risk and danger to the community in cases like these is essential to protecting vulnerable communities, restoring confidence in the justice system, encouraging reporting of crimes, and ensuring that every person can feel safe in their own home.

Please support the passage of SB 1516A.