

Submitter: Celeste S  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1516  
Members of the House Rules Committee:

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify!

I am writing to testify in support of SB 1516A.

?The fact that our citizens are impacted by racial inequality is already a tragedy. However, for members of our community to feel unprotected based on their race is a violation of both the Constitution and the ethical standards we claim are the right of every citizen.

?Families and businesses are the foundation that built and continue to sustain our communities. They are sacred and have every right to be protected. Regardless of whether victims are of Asian descent or not, the lack of political action I have witnessed regarding families and citizens being robbed is disheartening. This fear and unrest has a ripple effect across Oregon, despite the fact that our government has the power to address it.

?SB 1516A is not about punishment. It is about ensuring that defendants actually appear for a just trial. It is about the restoration of confidence in our system and the hope that things can improve when all voices are heard and weighed equally.

?Organized crime targeting citizens fosters a climate of fear. It is deeply disappointing and hurtful that our government has such a significant gap in the protocols meant to protect us—all citizens, regardless of color, race, gender, or ethnicity.

?Rule 27 would be a welcome start toward closing that gap and easing this fear. It would allow citizens who are currently being marginalized to once again focus on the communities they help make great here in Oregon.

?Thank you for your time and consideration.

sincerely,  
Celeste S  
Eugene