06 May 2013

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Senate Rules Committee Salem, Oregon

Dear Chair Rosenbaum, Vice-Chair Ferrioli and members of the Senate Rules Committee,

SB 596 is a long overdue step in the right direction to make our legislative process more transparent and friendly to the public. As you know, amendments are often not available to the public until very late in the process. Bills are introduced as "committee bills" so the public does not know who authored them. In many cases, bills receive public testimony then, after public testimony is closed, those same bills are rewritten and the public has no opportunity to express their opinions on the final bill even though it looks nothing like the bill they originally testified on.

While we still have a long way to go this bill would be a positive move forward.

Please pass this bill out of your committee.

Sincerely,

Richard F. Wisner Siletz, Oregon