



Oregon Assembly For Black Affairs

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February 18, 2013

2013 Oregon House Judiciary Committee

The Honorable Jeff Barker, Chair
The Honorable Chris Garrett, Vice-Chair
The Honorable Wayne Krieger, Vice-Chair
The Honorable Brent Barton
The Honorable Kevin Cameron
The Honorable Wally Hicks
The Honorable Andy Olson
The Honorable Carolyn Tomei
The Honorable Jennifer Williamson

Dear Judiciary Committee Chair Barker:

I am President of the Oregon Assembly for Black Affairs (OABA), an organization that is committed to improving the political, educational, social, legal, and economic status of Blacks in Oregon and building a better Oregon for the Black Community. OABA knows "What benefits Black Oregonians benefits ALL Oregonians."

I am here today to inform you that the Oregon Assembly for Black Affairs (OABA) supports HB 2314 and urges you to vote it out of committee. OABA support is because many Black Oregonians have experienced tremendous difficulties in securing effective legal representation and some of these Blacks in Oregon feel that they must bear with, even tolerate, crimes or discrimination against them rather than be further victimized, even humiliated, by not being able to get effective legal representation. Intimidation is one of those crimes that happen to some Black Oregonians even in the work place. By the legislature modifying this crime in the ways being proposed may give ALL individuals the courage to seek the assistance of the district attorneys to deal with the intimidation that they face.

Sincerely,

Calvin O. L. Henry, Ph.D.

OABA President