



**CITIZENS UNITED FOR
REHABILITATION OF ERRANTS**

1631 NE Broadway #460
Portland, OR 97232
(503) 977-9979 or
1-866-357-CURE (2873)
www.oregoncure.org

March 26, 2015

To: House Committee on Judiciary
From: Gretchen Vala, Oregon CURE
RE: Support for HB 2367: Establishes a Task Force on Adopting the
Uniform Collateral Consequences of Conviction Act

Chair Barker, Vice-Chairs Olson and Williamson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Gretchen Vala and I am the chair of Oregon CURE (Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants), a state chapter of National CURE. Our mission is to reduce crime by advocating for effective criminal justice policies, procedures and programs. Our board of directors is comprised of family members with a loved one in or released from an Oregon prison, a woman who was formerly incarcerated in Oregon and a former DOC employee.

Oregon CURE wholeheartedly supports HB 2367.

Our understanding of The Uniform Collateral Consequences of Conviction Act (UCCCA) is that there will be a more structured explanation of the possible collateral consequences to defendants at or before formal notification of charges; at the time of sentencing; and when leaving custody. By clarifying the consequences, people, (those convicted as well as the general population), will have a better understanding of what their future will hold.

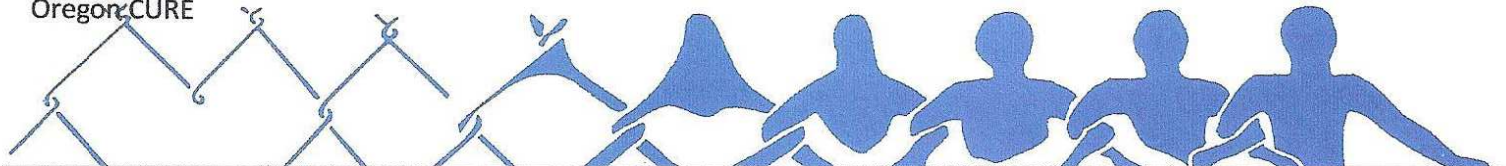
The component that will have a tremendously positive impact on people who have served their sentences will assist in reentry by providing a state issued Certificate of Rehabilitation which will need to be earned by the individual but can possibly make a difference in the formerly incarcerated person renting an apartment or finding employment.

At this point in time, Vermont has adopted the UCCCA, with Maryland and New York evaluating this act during this legislative session.

Thank you for your time and your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Vala
Oregon CURE



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