From: Aliya Wallace
To: JWMPS Exhibits; sen.jackiewinters@state.or.us; Rep Stark
Subject: HB 2355 Personal Statement
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 1:32:15 PM

Hello All,

I'm writing to you in regards to House Bill 2355. It is important to me that this bill be passed in order to improve the lives of my fellow Oregonians. I sit in a position of privilege that has allowed me to avoid many of the unfortunate circumstances that individuals impacted by this bill face; harmful Police profiling, drug offenses, deportation etc... But I understand the importance of healing as a community in order to materialize tangible progress and real change in the lives of so many. So while I cannot share a personal story I can share my voice as an Oregonian who wants the best for our community. As a community we must stand together with those who are most challenged through creating police accountability, treating addiction as an illness, and keeping families together. HB 2355 addresses many of the systematic problems that reinforce the oppression of people of color. Passing this bill is critical to future generations who want a seat at the table regardless of the color of their skin or their socio-economic status.

If Oregon truly loves dreamers, as the slogan goes, then it should support the dreams of all it's residents. Passing legislation that supports a shift in cultural attitudes and implements structures to uplift a disempowered class will ensure that Oregon encourages dreamers of all kinds. I hope that you will uphold Oregonian's values as you consider HB 2355 and see that it is necessary and important for us all.

Thank you for considering my voice.

Best,
Aliya Wallace