From: Chaela manning-ferguson
To: JWMPS Exhibits; sen.jackiewinters@state.or.us; Rep Stark
Subject: HB 2355
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 2:17:28 PM

As a person who has worked with a multicultural and multiracial team, I am strongly in favor of the passage of this bill due to the fact of my coworkers of color being repeatedly pulled over for no reason and when they have asked, they are not given any substantial reason, then told that they are “free to leave”. My black male coworker was pulled over five times in a week, his car was searched twice. My Native American coworker was pulled over twice in the same week, same scenario. My white coworkers never had that story to tell. It is ridiculous and insulting when we are told that the police don’t racially profile. Ridiculous.

I addition, Portland police have covertly engaged in the civil rights breaching style of “stop and frisk”, as reported and observed by this city’s people of color and social service representatives, which is insidious racial profiling.

As a person whom works in the state prison system in Oregon, I am strongly in favor of the passage of this bill. It is long past time that we identified public safety in a more appropriate context in relation to drug offenses. The system is flooded with people who were otherwise in positions to do a diversion program or Substance abuse treatment, which are both much more cost effective than incarceration with far better outcomes. Consider: a first time drug offender enters prison from jail and now has access to information they would not have had in a treatment facility, are not at risk of assault, are not turned into a systemic number and statistic.

I encourage you to utilize the power that you have to see that House Bill 2355 passes.

Thank you for your attention.

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Fear blocks appreciation of beauty, tolerance, forgiveness, service, and serenity.