

- Email as PDF file to hjud.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov by Fri. Feb. 15 (is ideal); or by Mon. Feb. 18.

February 16, 2019

Dear Chair Williamson, Co-Chairs Gorsek and Sprenger, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in strong support of HB 2631.

Hi. My name is Anastashia Rector-Juarez. I am 17 years old and I attend New Urban High School. I work hard at school, have a part time job, and participate in peer mediation group.

I support this bill because I have directly been affected by my family members who have experienced the justice system and been released for prison without knowing what to do and how to get their life started again. My mom was incarcerated and didn't get the help she needed and she had to find her own way through the difficult issues that people face when released. She was not successful and gave up, never got her license back, never got stable housing, and returned back to unhealthy was of living. She ended up staying outside the system as much as possible because she never understood how to operate within it.

I know a lady who went through similar issues of being in prison and when she got out, she had access to programs that helped her sort out her mess and get help for child custody and driver's license stuff, and she is doing a lot better than my mom. It makes me feel very sad. I know that if my mom got help that type of help she would be able to be on her feet right now and present to deal with my needs and my siblings needs.

Please help these women get the legal help they need. At one point women couldn't even vote. Thanks to the 19 amendment, women now have rights to represent their vote and their voice. Now please give women the right to access legal service to help them improve their life when coming back to the community.

I hope that you will support HB 2631. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anastashia Rector-Juarez

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