

To: House Committee on Judiciary
Fr: Christina Mae Ketcham
DA: March 14, 2019
RE: Support for HB 3064, the Accountability and Equity Act

Chair Williamson, Vice-Chair Sprenger, and Members of the Committee:

Justice Reinvestment has been successful in reducing use of prisons, protecting the public and holding people accountable for crime. Justice Reinvestment provides services that deliver better public safety outcomes while also saving Oregon taxpayers cost of construction and operation of additional prisons.

I personally believe drug and alcohol addictions can be better addressed and with better outcomes in addiction treatment centers rather by prison alone. Our communities and families work better when our families are able to stay together. Oregon can do better to support victims of crime, domestic violence and sexual assault with better directed support for supervision, education, treatment, legal services, housing and victims' services.

Justice Reinvestment is successful, and there is need for improvement. I support reforms that will enable accountability of the counties participation and enable effective and equitable funding redistribution. Your support of the Accountability and Equity Act will support reforms that will work to more effectively and equitably distribute resources into local public safety programs. HB 3064 will allow Oregon to more effectively and equitably reach historically underserved communities including communities of color, women, LGBT people, rural and tribal communities. An Equity Advisory Committee will make recommendations on how the Justice Reinvestment program can be updated to make our state fairer and more equitable.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my testimony. I ask for your active support for the Accountability and Equity Act (HB 3064), and I urge the Committee to move this bill forward.

Christina Mae Ketcham
Astoria Oregon