

**Kate Brown**  
Governor



**Oregon Commission on Black Affairs**  
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Testimony in support, SB 1573  
Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Monday, February 10, 2020, 8 am

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and Senators Dembrow, Gelser, Lithicum, Manning and Olsen:

The Oregon Commission on Black Affairs (OCBA) strongly supports SB 1575 which would assure that a juvenile record that has been approved for expungement, is effectively expunged from all state agency documents and that OYA in collaboration with juvenile authorities, study and recommend to the legislature a process for expunction in Oregon.

For youth who have made risky decisions leading to corrections in their early lives, we believe that this next step in operationalizing expunction is necessary, not only for themselves, but all of Oregon. Youth are the future of our state, and having a corrections related record is one of the leading predictors of a life of poverty and struggle. All areas of Oregon, communities of color, and rural areas with already high levels of poverty will be positively affected through the passage of SB 1575. Establishing the system for expunction, it will support many benefits that Oregon's citizens bring to its economy and while furthering their prospects for satisfying, contributing lives.

The Commission on Black Affairs thanks you, Senators, for your positive consideration of this foundational bill affecting the citizens of every area in Oregon.

Sincerely,

Jamal Fox, Chair

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