

I strongly support this bill. Minimum sentences are a clumsy tool that don't allow for myriads of circumstances that make a difference as we consider what a just outcome means. The Multnomah County Democratic Party, to which I belong as a precinct committee person, recognized this in their platform statement, "We call for the repeal of all mandatory minimum sentencing in Oregon, substituting Guidelines in its place, and allowing a judge to have discretion in all cases." Down the road, mandatory sentencing will also impede the movement towards restorative justice that represents true progress in resolving criminality-related issues among people.