

To: Senate Committee ON
Judiciary AND Ballot Measure 110

3-23-21

I AM writing today about the retroactivity of Ballot Measure 110. I completely understand the need for a more equal sentencing guideline.

When one judge in a certain part of the state gives a far more lenient sentence than another for the same crime it creates a lot of problems and lawsuit about equal treatment.

Just recently it was reported in the Eastern Oregonian that the Oregon Public Defender system is unconstitutional. Then of course there is the Ramos case that basically over turned all 10-2 verdicts.

Even more recently was the decision out of California that people in prison are still able to receive the economic impact checks because we are not second class citizens.

There are discussions across the country about whether or not we should be allowed to vote.

My personal experience with the justice system has been anything but just.

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I've had my ability to drive taken for nearly twenty years because as a single father in the 80's I had to choose between the necessities for the wellfare of my child and paying insurance on my car. That started a hole I could not dig out of for close to twenty five years.

While the courts say the best interest of a child is to keep them in the home with the parent they have always been with, they removed mine and gave custody to a drug abusing stripper away from the home she had known her whole life. This was because I was an ex felon and it did not matter that I was changed and owned my own business.

When I tried to report a theft and someone who had possession of stolen guns I was told I couldn't because of my criminal history.

These are just a few examples of how the legal system has discriminated against me personally. Right now I'm supposed to be getting rehabilitated.

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Every day of my time I'm shown how I'll NEVER get fair treatment (by the staff) in this already discriminatory environment (OREGON).

It states in Policy 20.1.3 of the contract that all ODOC personell sign and agree to that EVERY AIC (Adult IN custody) is to receive "FAIR AND EQUAL treatment". How is that possible when the VERY SENTENCING imposed is still NOT?

I realize it will cause an economic issue and there is good fear publicity to be gained from the political realm. That is on a small stage locally. How much political weight can be gained on a national level in this democratic environment by setting a standard of fair and equal treatment for EVERY ONE? Not just the minority groups who can be heard because they are not hidden behind a wall?

I have a family too! They are dying and struggling to survive. I am just as separated from my children as the immigrants on the border. Why am I not able to return to them as soon as possible?

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The subject of allowing "good time" to be retroactive really boils down to ONE question.

When is it ok to discriminate against anyone?

We have people who stole and released top secret documents being forgiven/pardoned and released from prison. Why is the question of "fair and equitable treatment" for all AIC's even a question?

Especially those of us who do have a history of good behavior? The policy of taking away some or all "earned" good time as a disciplinary action, is a tool for corrections staff. Without it they have a harder job.

Without being treated fair and equal, we have a harder time being motivated to change as well.

Thank You!

Sincerely,
Ken Lee
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