

To the House Committee on Rules: 05/07/2021

RE: Oregon Ethics Commission {//<Support (SB 060, 061, 062)>--<Oppose SB 063>//}

I have reviewed all bills and compiled the following recommendations:

SB 060 – Support with Amendment to include the following audits:

Audit of the Oregon State Bar Association for systemic and persistent bias and racism in access to legal services. To include Audit of the database of the Referral System. Make this public and mandatory participation.

Audit of Oregon Circuit Family Courts for inclusion and accessibility. Consider removing Family Courts from the Criminal Courts buildings. Co-mingling these separate community goals in centralized justice buildings is not helpful to the family participants who are not criminals.

SB 061 – Support with Amendment to include the Engineering and Planning Boards. Require mandatory reporting of pollution and substantial increases in carbon output, accidental or planned. Apply to both public and private engineers. Provide safe harbor for planning and engineering whistleblowing.

SB 062 – Substantial Change in Policy Direction: "Prohibits current or former public official from soliciting, receiving or using public moneys from public body to pay or make payments on civil penalty imposed by Oregon Government Ethics Commission." Change to "Prohibits current or former public officials from soliciting, receiving, or using public moneys from public body to pay or make payments on civil penalty by any judiciary court."

SB 063 – Substantial Change in Policy Direction: Retain term limitations. Make substantive policy direction change to address systemic exclusionary practices. Create pipeline of Ethics Advisors from a diverse range of Oregon State committees and backgrounds. It is critical that a new cycle of citizens provide their input, and it is the legislative authority consider a diverse panel of experts on all State committees.