



Date: February 1, 2022
To: Senate Committee on Judiciary
From: Jenny Pool Radway, Causa Oregon
Re: Support for Transforming Justice 2022, SB 1510

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jenny Pool Radway and I am Executive Director at Causa Oregon. Causa works to improve the lives of Latinx immigrants and their families in Oregon through advocacy, coalition building, leadership development, and civic engagement.

At Causa, we see how the Latinx communities we organize with, support, and live in are disproportionately overcriminalized, putting our communities at risk of increased police brutality, deportation, and negative health and economic outcomes. Every Oregonian deserves to feel safe and be treated with dignity. But many of us, especially Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and other people of color, feel vulnerable and unprotected in our own communities, homes, and workplaces.

Transforming Justice 2022 (SB 1510) will allow our communities to move forward with less fear and more support. Through making some minor traffic infractions into secondary offenses, this bill would reduce police interactions with Latinx community members, meaning that community members would be less likely to experience police violence, as well as the negative immigration consequences that can come from a police interaction. Further, the Justice Reinvestment Equity Program would provide crucial support for Latinx communities and other communities of color around the state through funding culturally-specific services.

At Causa, we envision a world where all people have the resources and opportunities they need to thrive. Transforming Justice is aligned with that vision because it will reduce fear of law enforcement interactions, improve employment and housing stability via shifts in rules around parole and probation supervision, and invest public safety money where our communities most need it.

We urge you to support SB 1510 and enact these critically needed changes that are aligned with Oregonians' vision for a public safety system rooted in racial equity, accountability, healing, and opportunity.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jenny Pool Radway
Executive Director