



Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation
Submitted by Paul Solomon, Executive Director, Sponsors Inc.
February 3, 2022
RE: SB 1510

Chair Prozanski, Members of the Committee:

I submit this as a letter of support for HB 1510. Sponsors is a national leader in the delivery of re-entry services for people returning from prison. We do this work because we believe that people can and do change, and that the appropriate support and services at a critical time can serve as a catalyst to lasting change.

Senate Bill 1510 builds on work done in the 2021 legislative session through various bills, but namely HB 2002. SB 1510 is the product of a workgroup brought together to improve upon unfinished provisions of HB 2002.

With this letter I provide you an overview of the Community Corrections section of SB 1510. It is imperative to point out that the changes in this bill will have a profound impact on the individuals we serve at Sponsors, and to thousands of others reentering Oregon communities post-incarceration each year.

SB 1510:

- Eliminates some conditions of supervision that are no longer relevant. This includes aligning the conditions with state drug laws (instead of federal) to reflect the legalization of Marijuana in Oregon.
- Directs DOC to hold a rulemaking process to determine when an officer can visit a person at their workplace and when they cannot. This would also include rules regarding when certain people on supervision can report to their parole or probation officer remotely.
- Requires trauma-informed and culturally specific training for parole and probation officers.

By eliminating unnecessary barriers for people on parole and probation, we can build upon people's strengths to enhance housing stability, family connection, and economic stability.

It's particularly important to note that the portions of SB 1510 that pertain to community corrections were developed with collaboration from our colleagues who run re-entry programs and those with lived experience of incarceration and correctional supervision..

As a society and as a state, it is imperative that we find ways to acknowledge the dedication and work it takes to comply with the terms of supervision. This bill will help people coming out of prison succeed, making our communities safer and stronger.

Sincerely,


Paul Solomon