

Date: February 3, 2022
To: Senate Committee on Judiciary
From: Date: February 1, 2022
To: Senate Committee on Judiciary
From: Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice
Re: Support for Transforming Justice 2022, SB 1510

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

The Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice (IMIrJ) is in relationship with over 160 faith communities throughout the state. Our IMIrJ community includes thousands of people of faith and fierce love from a myriad of backgrounds and religious traditions. We are immigrants and US-born. We live in Oregon's rural and small towns, suburbs, and urban centers. Together, we are united in our profound respect for the inherent worth and dignity of all human beings -- and in our commitment to love each other, as we honor the many paths our ancestors and families traveled that have led each of us to this shared home we now call Oregon.

Every Oregonian deserves to feel safe and be treated with dignity. But many of us, especially Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Immigrant and other people of color, feel vulnerable and unprotected in our own communities, homes, and workplaces. Every Oregonian deserves to feel safe and be treated with dignity.

Transforming Justice 2022 (SB 1510) will have a significant impact on IMIrJ friends, leaders and the people we love. Police officers have historically played a role in immigration enforcement causing many immigrant Oregonian to be afraid of interactions with them. Additionally, police forces have caused distrust among Black, Indigenous, immigrants and other people of color due to a systemic pattern of using excessive force. Changing how traffic stops are made and limiting unnecessary traffic stops makes our communities safer for all Oregonians.

We are particularly supportive of changing how public safety dollars are invested in communities across Oregon. All people should have better access to the resources they need to begin to feel safe, heal, and rebuild their lives. Please 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,

Alaide Vilchis Ibarra
Executive Director
Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice (IMIrJ)