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### Testimony in support of **SB 1584**

The federal government, the District of Columbia, and 36 states have some form of compensation for wrongful convictions. But Oregon is one of 14 states that does not! This must be corrected. It is very unfortunate for anyone to spend time incarcerated or under post-prison supervision for a crime they did not commit. There are many other unfortunate circumstances and losses that may result from the wrongful conviction, affecting one's future opportunities. "Punishment" is also suffered by the person's family and other loved ones. Time can never be returned. The least the state can do is compensate financially for all these losses.

The most common causes of wrongful conviction are eyewitness misidentifications, flawed forensics, false confessions, misconduct by officials, false testimony by informants, and inadequate defense. If the State has to pay for such mistakes, hopefully more will be done to ensure that innocent defendants are not convicted. Justice Advocates strongly supports passage of SB 1584.