

Submitter: Amie Wexler  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: SB579

Dear Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee and Chair Prozanski:

Please accept this testimony in favor of passing SB 579 out of committee. I strongly support the ability of all Oregonians to vote, including those that are incarcerated. Voting encourages civic engagement, and we know that being civically engaged while incarcerated will encourage pro-social behavior while inside and reduce the likelihood of recidivism. People who are incarcerated own businesses, send their children to school, own homes, and care about their communities. They should be able to weigh in on elections along with their non-incarcerated relatives and friends. I work with a number of formerly incarcerated Oregonians at the Oregon Justice Resource Center and I know that their time inside was a time of growth and change and that they wanted to remain connected to their towns, counties, and the state. Please pass SB 579 out of committee with a do-vote recommendation.

Thank you for considering this request.  
Best, Amie Wexler