



Service Employees International Union – Oregon State Council

Date: Thursday, March 2, 2023
To: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans
From: Alberto Gallegos, SEIU Oregon
Re: **Support for Consistent Community Supervision, HB 2650**

Chair Grayber, Vice-Chair Lewis, Vice-Chair Tran, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter in **support of House Bill 2650, which would ensure equitable policy outcomes by requiring task forces and workgroups to include the people who are most affected by these policies.**

My name is Alberto Gallegos and I am submitting this letter of support on behalf of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Oregon. SEIU Oregon is composed of SEIU Local 503 and SEIU Local 49, which together represent over 87,000 people. Local 49 represents private sector janitors, property service workers, light manufacturing, and healthcare workers; while Local 503 represents homecare workers, private nonprofit workers, in-home childcare providers, nursing home workers, and state and local government employees.

Our labor union is highly diverse with Local 49 being more diverse than the general population of Oregon and Local 503 communicating in over 5 languages. Our members come from all walks of life and we are strong, not despite those differences, but because of those differences. Our union is member-led and our members approach every situation with their own unique perspective that was forged by their lived experiences; which often leads to solutions and a path forward that others had not considered.

Our legislative process aspires to make laws that equitably serve us all. But when legislative workgroups and task forces lack diverse voices, the process often creates policies and rules that don't support – or worse, negatively affect – people across the state, particularly Black, Indigenous, Latine, and other Oregonians of color, as well as other historically underserved communities. We strongly believe that it is imperative that everyone has a voice in the process and that their voice is actually heard and taken into consideration when making decisions that directly impact their communities.

By passing HB 2650, Oregon's workgroup and task forces process would be more in line with our values by centering lived experience to hear unique perspectives, equity for historically underserved communities, and economic justice by compensating workgroup and task force members for their time and travel.

SEIU Oregon urges you to support HB 2650 for more equitable outcomes across Oregon.



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Thank you,

Alberto Gallegos
Political and Government Relations Organizer
SEIU Oregon State Council