

Submitter: Dan Wade
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB348

I would like to thank the committee for reading and reviewing my testimony. As a multigenerational Oregonian I have long been aware of the racial disparity that has existed in my state. IP-17/BM-114 is a travesty at the worst level. The Senate's imagineering(SB-348) of this with even more restrictive and punitive approaches is alarming. I strongly oppose this even more infantilizing bill that treats citizens as incapable of responsible ownership and access to BIPOC citizens as well as every citizen.

If you truly believe in systemic racism, then WHY are YOU being the actual and literal embodiment of racist policies? This bill in all its forms hearken back to the time when we could see "NO COLOREDS" on fountains and businesses?! I was never so proud as to see that we as a State moved to not make second class citizens. Please don't dive headlong into this bait and switch bill that pushes an unnecessary and expensive duplication of existing structure onto ALL citizens. We already have background checks and protections, and to add a barrier to entry that disproportionately impacts poor, rural, inner city, and people of color is unbelievable.

Encouraging enforcement of existing laws should be our push, and not seeking to gleefully turn law abiding citizens into criminals. Please do not expand racially discriminatory policies to the weakest and poorest of our society. Please do not allow an already terribly written measure to become a 64 page document of further oppression. Please do not make law abiding citizens into criminals or owners of second class rights.

Finally, I would encourage you NOT rapidly push through hurtful legislation in a hurry. Doing so emboldens those that would seek to deny order and access to our legislative process. If the roles were reversed and you saw someone stripping your rights with not only sheer impunity, but deliberate intent to deprive. That would likely make you wonder if equal access to the protection of law actually existed. Or, is there a preference of class of citizen and which protections and restrictions should be applied.

Please opposed this draconian and infantilizing enforcement of a law that brings back Jim Crow era laws. Don't be that person!

Respectfully,

Dan Wade