

Support Guaranteeing the Right to Vote, SB 579  
Ways and Means Roadshow - Portland, Oregon

Chairs Steiner and Sanchez; Vice Chairs Girod, Gomberg and Smith; and Members of the Committee:

My name is Danna Solano and I am a resident of Portland. I am writing in strong support of funding SB 579, Guaranteeing the Right to Vote, which would ensure every eligible Oregonian can register to vote, update their voter registration, and vote in elections based on where they resided prior to incarceration.

As a Social Work student advocating for human rights is a substantial value I hold. I write this testimonial for the 12,000 Oregonians who are denied the right to vote and support Guaranteeing the Right to Vote, SB 579, to not repeat historical racial practices. Let's not forget that blocking people with felony convictions from voting began during the Jim Crow era to intentionally keep Black individuals from having the right to vote as an intentional strategy to keep Black people from voting and have historically been disproportionately targeted by the criminal legal system.

I urge you to ensure Senate Bill 579 is funded and passed out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Danna Solano