

I am writing in support of SB1007, which modifies the provisions relating to petitions for compensation for wrongful conviction.

An unjustified conviction has terrible, and often irreversible repercussions. It turns a person's life upside down. Loss of wages, legal costs, prison treatments cause lasting damage, incur considerable expense and unmeasurable mental suffering.

In the face of falsified testimony, proving one's innocence require enormous financial efforts, as there is currently a definite bias favoring women accusing men of crimes, especially sexual crimes. These efforts require the support of experienced and specialized lawyers, and incur considerable costs.

All these reasons constitute fair and valid grounds for seeking just compensation for the multiple damages suffered by an individual and his or her family *after* the courts have recognized that this individual has been unjustly convicted.

Every society commits excesses at certain times. It is time to finally recognize this, and to compensate those who have been wrongfully condemned to a life of misery.

Michael Mullejans
Stayton, Oregon