

Submitter: Rachel Freed  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2250

I am writing to express my opposition to House Bill 2250, which directs the Department of Corrections to determine the last-known address of adults in custody and submit this information to the Portland State University Population Research Center. While I recognize the importance of data collection for research and policy purposes, I believe this bill raises significant privacy and ethical concerns that cannot be overlooked.

First and foremost, the collection and sharing of personal address information of individuals in custody can lead to serious privacy violations. Many adults in custody may have legitimate concerns about their safety and the privacy of their families. Disclosing their last-known addresses could expose them to potential harassment or harm, both while they are incarcerated and after their release.

Additionally, this bill may disproportionately affect marginalized communities, further perpetuating cycles of disadvantage and stigmatization. Individuals in custody are often already vulnerable, and requiring the Department of Corrections to collect and share sensitive information does little to support their rehabilitation or reintegration into society. Instead, it may create unnecessary barriers and reinforce negative stereotypes.

Moreover, I question the necessity and efficacy of this data collection. There are already established methods for gathering demographic and population data without compromising individual privacy. We should prioritize strategies that respect the dignity of all individuals, rather than imposing requirements that could have harmful repercussions.

In conclusion, I urge you to reconsider support for House Bill 2250. We must prioritize the privacy and safety of individuals in our correctional system while also fostering a more compassionate and equitable approach to data collection and research.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.