



To: Joint Subcommittee on Public Safety

From:

Date: April 17, 2025

RE: SEIU in support of DOJ HB 5014

For the record, my name is Jasmine Snyder and I am writing in support of the Oregon Department of Justice's budget. The investments outlined in the budget reflect the Attorney General's commitment to protecting and supporting working families, consumers, and seniors in 19 DOJ offices in rural, central, coastal, and metro Oregon.

SEIU 503 represents over 900 dedicated public employees at the Oregon Department of Justice. At the DOJ, I have worked in the Eugene office since 2021. I am currently in the role of Child Support Case Manager, as well as being the SEIU Steward for workers in my office, Secretary for the DOJ 137 Sublocal, and serving in other roles within the union.

The DOJ is made up of several units and programs. For example, in Crime Victim and Survivor Services, workers ensure that financial compensation is available for victims of violent crime, such as funeral costs and sexual assault exams. This is an area to carefully consider as the Trump Administration is ending nearly \$19 million in Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding which would limit our ability to protect victims of sexual assault and domestic abuse. And; In Consumer Protection, workers ensure that Oregonians are protected against scams, shady car sales, and other predatory practices. In the last year, the number of calls to Oregon DOJ's consumer hotline has doubled. Despite our best efforts, our ability to take action against these harmful practices hasn't grown.

As a Child Support Case Manager within the Division of Child Support, I work to help parents support their children. Child Support Case Managers are not just debt collectors, but service providers that help families with establishing and modifying their support orders to reflect their life situations. We refer families experiencing hardship to resources that may be available in our communities and participate in outreach programs to connect families with the Program. We enforce judicial and administrative child support orders to get children the financial support they need from a parent. Often, cases are complex and require extensive review or lengthy conversations with participants. We help participants navigate what can be a complex system so they understand their options for paying and receiving support. Many requests from

participants are time sensitive, which can be difficult to prioritize when each Case Manager has several hundred cases or more.

With more resources, we can better support Oregon families in addition to the DOJ's other goals of protecting Oregonians from those who break the law. Please consider the investments in HB 5014 and vote "aye" to protect and serve all Oregonians.

Thank you,

Jasmine Snyder