

Submitter: Katy Conlin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1516

I am testifying in support of SB 1516A, Communities across the state have experienced organized, repeat property crimes carried out by individuals who have strong incentives and demonstrated ability to flee the jurisdiction before trial. When courts lack clear authority to consider flight risk and danger to the community, defendants are released under conditions that do not realistically ensure their appearance, undermining accountability and public confidence in the justice system.

SB 1516A restores balanced, individualized decision-making by allowing judges to consider concrete risk factors—such as prior failures to appear, multi-jurisdictional activity, and organized criminal conduct—when determining pretrial release. Public safety depends not only on fair treatment of defendants, but on a system that can ensure people charged with serious and repeat offenses are actually present to face trial.

SB 1516A strengthens that balance and helps ensure that our justice system can function as intended.

I stand strong with my neighbors and fellow citizens for justice in the face of the disturbing trend of targeted violence we've seen. Lets get this passed.