

February 27, 2026

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Melissa “Mimi” Nollo, and I am a longtime resident of Lane County, living in Eugene, Oregon. As an immigrant and an active community member engaged in cultural and civic initiatives in our region, I am writing in support of SB 1516A.

I believe our courts should have the ability to consider all relevant factors — including flight risk and potential danger to the community — when making individualized pretrial release decisions.

In recent months, a series of organized burglaries have deeply affected members of our Asian American and Pacific Islander community in Lane County. These incidents have caused not only financial loss but also fear and instability for families who feel specifically targeted. When there are repeated offenses and credible concerns about flight, it is important that courts have the discretion to weigh those risks appropriately.

At the same time, I strongly value due process and fair, case-by-case judicial review. From my understanding, SB 1516A does not mandate detention or remove constitutional protections. Rather, it restores balanced judicial discretion by allowing judges to consider flight risk and danger to the community as part of their decision-making process.

Protecting vulnerable communities and upholding fairness in the justice system are not opposing goals. They are complementary. I respectfully urge your support of SB 1516A.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Mimi Nollo*

Melissa “Mimi” Nollo  
Eugene, Oregon