



State Senator Kayse Jama

Senate District 24 (D-East Portland)

Native land of Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Bands of Chinook, Tualatin Kalapuya, Molalla, and many other tribes that made their homes along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers

PRESS RELEASE

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Oregon Senate Approves Criminal Justice and Public Safety Improvements

Senate Bill 1510 limits unnecessary traffic stops and arrests, requires law enforcement officers to inform people of their rights, and removes certain barriers for people on probation or post-prison supervision.

SALEM, Oregon - Today the Oregon Senate approved Senate Bill 1510 on a vote of 16 to 11. This bill will reduce the amount of unnecessary, dangerous, traffic stops by prohibiting law enforcement officers from initiating traffic stops based solely on minor traffic violations, including broken or noncompliant headlights, taillights, and license plate lights. SB 1510 will also require law enforcement to inform people they are questioning of their right to refuse consent to a search.

“Ending racial profiling and reducing pretext stops are priorities of mine and I strongly believe that SB 1510 is a step in the right direction, to begin to undo the harm the criminal justice system has had on people of color in Oregon” said State Senator Kayse Jama (D-Portland), “Being pulled over can be a very traumatic experience for many in our state, mainly communities of color who are disproportionately impacted by the criminal justice system. By reducing the amount of unnecessary stops, we reduce these dangerous interactions for both drivers and police officers.”

SB 1510 will also remove certain barriers for people on probation or on post-prison supervision seeking to rebuild their lives by investing resources in communities of color which have been disproportionately impacted by over policing. This bill will also require certain training and certification for parole and probation officers.

Senate Bill 1510 now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration.

About State Senator Kayse Jama: Senator Jama represents Senate District 24 (East Portland and North Clackamas) and serves as the chair of the Senate Committee On Housing and Development, and the Legislature’s Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) Caucus. He was the first former refugee, Muslim, and Somali-American to serve in the Oregon State Senate. Before his appointment, Sen. Jama was a prominent community organizer and Executive Director of Unite Oregon.

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