

JANEEN SOLLMAN
STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 15



OREGON STATE SENATE

April 11, 2023

Lori L. Bocker
Secretary of the Senate

RE: Vote Explanation for Senate Bill 475

Dear Secretary Bocker,

On Monday, April 10th, Senate Republicans made a motion to pull SB 475 from the Senate Judiciary Committee without following the appropriate legislative process. They did this with a total of 16 bills back-to-back.

As a mom and grandma, I am passionate about improving public safety within our communities. For years I have been an advocate for reducing crime and recidivism, addressing gun violence, and supporting victims. My vote against this procedural motion was not a vote against the merits of SB 475 or any of the other bills Senate Republicans attempted to remove from committee.

Making a motion to move a bill directly from committee is a procedural maneuver that undermines our democratic and legislative process. It advances bills before they have been properly vetted by experts and the public. By attempting to bypass the legislative committee process, we are essentially shutting the door to the public. When bills are in committee, Oregonians are able to weigh in about how these policies could affect their communities and their everyday lives. That won't happen if they bypass the committee process.

Making a motion to move a bill directly from committee to the floor is also fiscally irresponsible. No financial impact statements have been analyzed or posted. We have no way of knowing how these bills will impact state, county, or local budgets or Oregonians' hard earned tax dollars.

Again, I voted no on the procedural motion to pull the bill from committee (the process), not the merits of the actual bill (the content) itself.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Janeen Sollman'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Senator Janeen Sollman
Senate District 15