

LUCETTA ELMER
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 24



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 8, 2023

Timothy G. Sekerak
Chief Clerk of the House
State Capitol Building
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Vote Explanation on SB 529

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

Please accept this letter as my official vote explanation on Senate Bill 529.

I voted no on this bill because penal facilities already have issues surrounding illegal drug usage within their facilities. This was supported by testimony from Department of Corrections staff in two committees. Of those inmates being newly incarcerated, 63 % have serious drug problems. However, there is no data collection to support that these same inmates are not releasing from prison with the same related drug use problems. The Department of Corrections currently has five, (5), drug/alcohol programs, two, (2), of which are six months in duration. Policy needs to be drafted to deter and control the distribution and or use of drugs within a correctional institution.

Respectfully submitted into the House record.

Sincerely,

Lucetta Elmer

Oregon State Representative

District 24