

Secretary: Vote explanation please. Senator Boquist

SJR 10 is a referral to the voters eliminating involuntary servitude as a result of a crime adjudicated by the courts and/or jury. Proponents claim it bans slavery but that is already banned in the Oregon and US Constitutions. The staff measure summary purports the referral removes 'language allowing slavery and involuntary servitude' but the actual text of the language being removed from the Oregon Constitution is "the State otherwise than as a punishment for a crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted." Meaning a convicted prisoner or probationer cannot be forced to work while in prison or on probation. For some reason the staff measure summary calls out Walmart, Whole Foods and Victoria Secret as having used prison labor for some contract benefit. Meaning this was bad. The furniture in every State Senator's office is made by prison labor bought by the Democrat leadership. The Democrat leadership orders wooden plaques for awards from prison labor. Green energy solar panels were manufactured in the prisons. News reports claim companies like Nike, Intel, and Apple use indentured labor in Asia, whether true or false, it is no different than calling out Walmart or Victoria Secret. Hypocrisy. This Senator opposes corporate slavers in Asia, Africa and Latin America. This State Senator opposes any slavery. This Senator has been in the field operating against slavers. Never once seen the sponsors or legislative supporters of this referral in Africa, the Middle East, SE Asia or Latin America opposing slavery or indentured servitude. However, this Senator supports court ordered work after convictions both in a prison and on probation. Both United States and Oregon constitutional clauses on involuntary servitude is what allows victim restitution, court restitution, involuntary labor in emergencies like ordered by Governor Brown in this pandemic, and a host of other judicial court precedence's. Explaining to an abuse or rape victim why restitution cannot be paid after this poorly crafted referral's passage can be done the Democrat and Republican Senators alike who voted for SJR 10. If the Legislature wants to reinforce the ban on slavery happy to vote yes but not supporting making state prisons a holiday along with ending restitution and other judicial precedence's regarding involuntary servitude. The list is long so voters beware."