



## OREGON SENATE DEMOCRATS

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Oregon State Legislature

### PRESS RELEASE

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### **Senate Democrats Advance Measure to Improve Public Safety** *Senate Bill 1510 Invests in Restorative Justice Programs, Reduces Unnecessary Stops*

SALEM – Today, the Senate approved Senate Bill 1510 on a vote of 16 to 11. This legislation reduces unnecessary traffic stops, improves law enforcement best practices and will distribute funding to culturally-specific organizations and service providers.

“Senate Bill 1510 is a critical step forward to improve public safety and help undo systemic racism in our justice system. Black Oregonians are 2% of the overall population and 10% of the prison population. As a former corrections officer, I saw the impact of these racial disparities daily,” said Senator James Manning (D-Eugene), who co-carried Senate Bill 1510 on the Senate floor. “The important investments in this bill will reach the programs that will help people re-enter society after leaving prison and help Oregonians who are in need of a variety of services stay out of contact with the criminal justice system in the first place.”

“Communities need police to be able to focus on preventing and solving crimes, especially violent crimes,” said Senator Floyd Prozanski (D-Eugene), Chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation, who co-carried Senate Bill 1510 on the Senate floor. “We should reduce traffic stops for equipment violations like broken taillights that aren’t dangerous, so police can focus on stopping real crime. We need to reestablish trust between communities and law enforcement. Senate Bill 1510 will help create a safer Oregon by helping law enforcement focus on doing their jobs effectively.”

Senate Bill 1510 directs the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to establish a program to award grants to public and private entities for restorative justice programs, improves law enforcement best practices and directs Justice Reinvestment Equity Program funds to be distributed to culturally-specific and response service providers.

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

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