

Senate Judiciary Committee  
Proponent Testimony  
Senate Bill 182  
Written Testimony Only

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Dear Chair Manning, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Thomas,  
Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on Senate Bill 182.

I support this bill primarily because of the impact that it will have for those housed in our jails pretrial. I fully endorse the belief that you are innocent until proven guilty. Those incarcerated pretrial have not been convicted, yet they remain behind bars without having a trial. This flaw in our criminal justice system can be corrected if Senate Bill 182 becomes law. Requirements that hearings be held promptly and that judges consider a person's income, expenditures and debts when determining bail are crucial bail reform elements.

As a Lake County taxpayer, I am particularly interested in Senate Bill 182 becoming law. It will significantly reduce jail populations by as much as 40%. If bail reform as proposed in this bill passes along with House companion legislation, House Bill 315, Lake County will experience a significant reduction in their pretrial jail population, making it unnecessary for the current plans to construct a new 100 million dollar jail to move forward.