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Subject: FW: re proposed amendment to CrR 3.2
Date: Monday, April 29, 2024 8:14:12 AM

From: Bradford, Kerri <Kerri.Bradford@kingcounty.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 5:49 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
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Thank you for accepting public comments on these proposed amendments. Bail is imposed by judges in large part to ensure a defendant appears in court when required. Defendants failing to appear to court hearings is not fair to the victim, the defendant, and the criminal justice process as a whole. All parties deserve a fair resolution to criminal cases and that includes not allowing cases to go stale due to failures to appear. The proponents of the proposed changes to CrR 3.2 neglect to mention that bail bonds companies provide a service. They help make sure that the defendant appears in court, which is good for the case, the defendant, the victim, and the community. In my opinion, requiring a defendant to make only 10% of bail that the judge has found appropriate after having heard from defense and the prosecution and then putting Court Clerks in the position to have to create policies and procedures in response to a failure to appear will not help the already lagging criminal justice process. If bail does not encourage a defendant to return to court, then what is the purpose of bail?

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