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## Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force

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May 20, 2013

Senator Beyer, Chair  
Members of the Senate Business and Transportation Committee  
Via e-mail

Re: Support for HB 2903

Dear Chair Beyer and Members of the Senate Business and Transportation Committee:

The Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force (SATF) is a private, non-profit, non-governmental statewide agency that provides leadership on best practices in the response to and prevention of sexual violence. The SATF's appointed membership of over 100 Oregonians from across the state represent professionals including law enforcement, prosecutors, victim advocates, educators, treatment providers, offender managers, medical providers, researchers, and others.

When a crime victim needs to seek court, medical, or safety protection, timing is critical. If there's an immediate threat, protection steps can't wait till after work. If a victim can't leave work when necessary to take safety steps like getting a protection order or talking to law enforcement, it's bad for everyone – the victim, co-workers, and the employer.

This is a small bill that doesn't expand types of leave, or amount of leave. It makes two small changes to current law to close the gap in protection so that new employees can qualify for leave, and so that information about this leave is made available on postings already provided in break rooms.

This bill is good policy for victims, employers, co-workers, and the state: It will reduce barriers to safety for victims and also increase workplace safety for all employees.

I urge you to support House Bill 2903.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia Stinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Cynthia Stinson  
Interim Executive Director