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**Senator Floyd Prozanski and Members of the Committee  
Members of the Oregon Senate Judiciary Committee**

Dear Senator Floyd Prozanski and Members of the Committee

I urge you to support **HB 3327**.

In 2010, my law partner Vicki Ballou and I established The CLIF Project, a pro bono legal project at Tonkon Torp LLP to assist people who were adjudicated for sex crimes as minors in seeking relief from inclusion in the Oregon sex offender registry. Our many clients have taught us that people with the stigma of "sex offender" often cannot rent an apartment, get a job, or participate in their own children's school activities. The label of "sex offender" can taint a person for life, even if the person was young at the time of the offense and has successfully completed treatment.

The Oregon laws that allow no expunction for any sex crime contribute importantly to this problem. Many people who committed sex crimes are not dangerous, and there is no justification for excluding them from society. The lines drawn by HB 3327 are so narrow that there can be no argument that someone eligible for expunction under HB 3327 constitutes any continuing threat to public safety. Excluding these individuals from full participation in society for a youthful mistake is not justified by any public safety argument.

**However, HB 3327 does not go far enough.** Oregon Youth Authority statistics show that 96 out of 100 youthful sex offenders *do not recidivate*. This is consistent with national and international research on recidivism. Many of these individuals should also be able to seek expungement of their offenses under 419A.262. Without such opportunities, they face a lifetime stigma that is not justified by any increase in public safety.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Gwendolyn Griffith