

Co Chairs Shields and Williamson, and Members of the Public Safety Subcommittee,

My name is Sarah Groshell. I am a citizen, mother and small business owner in Clackamas County. Much of my professional career and personal passion has been devoted to assisting survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Oregon. As the parent of a two-year old girl, it is my dream that she will grow into a world that is free from violence. To reach that dream, we first need to fortify our system of victims' services.

The Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund (ODSVS) is an integral part of Oregon's response to and prevention of domestic and sexual violence. The programs it funds , including emergency shelter, expert safety planning and other support services, are the safety net for survivors. These programs are currently underfunded. ODSVS is the only part of the state general fund that goes directly to programs dedicated to serving survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Through this fund, Oregon can save lives by protecting victims services. Through this fund, we can move towards a safer Oregon so that everyone who experiences domestic and sexual violence has someone to call and somewhere to go.

**I urge you to increase these funds to \$10 million for the biennium with a yes vote on SB 5516.** Help create a safer Oregon for my daughter and all Oregonians by funding vital services.

Thank you so much for prioritizing victims' services in Oregon!

Respectfully,  
Sarah Groshell

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