



KATHLEEN TAYLOR

**State Representative
House District 41**

February 1st, 2016

Representative Jeff Barker, Chair
Committee Members
House Committee on Judiciary
Subject: HB 4082– *Expanding ORS 167.012*

Chair Barker and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to request your support for HB 4082 expanding the ORS 167.012, the Promoting Prostitution Statute.

Representative Huffman and I co-chair the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Workgroup. This group meets regularly with stakeholders including elected officials, law enforcement, prosecutors, advocates, and others to address the needs of sex trafficking victims, many of whom are minors. The group also work to address the ways our system can better hold perpetrators- both buyers and traffickers- accountable.

This bill came from that workgroup and the concept was brought forward by the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office. It works to align Oregon law with how the crime of promoting prostitution looks on the ground. As with other forms of criminal activity, individuals engaged in that activity are sometimes "making exchanges" with things other than money or property. In order to reflect that reality, this bill adds receipt of or the agreement to receive "goods, services, or something else of value" to the Promoting Prostitution statute.

Representative Huffman and I worked closely with the Multnomah County District Attorney's office, Aaron Knott of the Attorney General's Office as well as Gail Meyer from the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyer's Association. Additionally, HB 4082 has brought support from advocates as well as a from legislators across parties and chambers.

Thank you Chair Barker and Members of the Committee, I appreciate this opportunity, and I urge your support.

Respectfully,

Kathleen Taylor