



March 23, 2017

Representative Jeff Barker
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Affirmative Action & Equal
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Dear Chairman Barker and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to be here today and testify on House Bill 2972.

My name is Laura Stadum and I am OHSU's Title IX Coordinator and the Associate Director for the Affirmative Action & Equal Opportunity Department. I am here today to express OHSU's support for the bill and the climate it supports for students at Oregon universities to be able to report instances of sex or gender harassment and/or discrimination, including sexual assault.

This bill reflects what OHSU policy and practice already are: OHSU works to create an atmosphere that is safe and supportive. OHSU is committed to policies that create a safe space for students to report sexual assault. Students afraid to come forward are reassured they will be supported in their decision if they decide to pursue a complaint. SB 2972 would help institutions further cement that message with students.

OHSU responds swiftly to all reports of these incidents and works to provide support services for those who have experienced sexual or relationship violence or stalking, protect the rights of OHSU members under our Title IX obligations, apply our Code of Conduct, harassment and discrimination policies, and cooperate fully with law enforcement.

The Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Department works with partners across our institution to ensure that students have information about support, resources, services, and assistance that the university will provide, such as academic, working and transportation accommodations, health and counseling services and referrals to legal advocacy or law enforcement.

OHSU works to assist and connect students to services and resources in accordance with the student's choice. OHSU is committed to providing students an informed choice of whether or not a student decides to move forward with pursuing an investigation, whether internal or external.

OHSU, in short, tries to be present, helpful and understanding at what can be one of the most difficult moments in a student's life. OHSU supports this legislation as another way to ensure those students receive the support they need from their university when they need it.

Thank you again for this opportunity to testify and I am happy to answer any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura D. Stadum". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Laura Stadum, J.D.
Associate Director and Title IX Coordinator, OHSU Affirmative Action & Equal
Opportunity