

## Testimony in support of HB 2633 House Committee on Judiciary Submitted by Kerry Naughton, Executive Director April 5, 2017

Chair Barker, Vice-Chair Olson, Vice-Chair Williamson, and members of the Committee:

I am Kerry Naughton, Executive Director of Oregon Abuse Advocates and Survivors in Service (OAASIS). We are building a movement that empowers communities to prevent child sexual abuse and help survivors live full, healthy, joyful lives. We are working towards a future where all people experience a loving childhood free of abuse and trauma; all relationships are based on equity and respect; and all people who have been sexually abused are supported to heal.

OAASIS is pleased to support House Bill 2633. This bill will ensure that people who have sexually abused others receive ethical, evidence-based treatment from qualified treatment providers.

OAASIS is a survivor-led organization, with thousands of supporters across Oregon. Most of our supporters are adults who were sexually abused as children or survivors' family members. When we engaged our supporters in a comprehensive strategic planning process last year, our supporters clearly called for us to work to ensure that people who have offended are held accountable and receive treatment in addition to our work to ensure that people who have been sexually abused as children are supported to heal.

Child sexual abuse is not inevitable. It can be prevented. When a person has sexually abused someone, it is imperative to the safety of the survivor and community that the abuser receives the treatment needed to not abuse again.

As OAASIS works to prevent child sexual abuse and help survivors heal, we understand we need to support structures that hold people who have committed child sexual abuse accountable in ways that value their humanity; gives them the help they need to not harm again; and promotes a safe, healthy, and inclusive community. House Bill 2633 provides the structure to ensure that sex offense specific treatment is ethical, evidence-based, follows updated standards of practice, and is offered by trained providers.

House Bill 2633 enhances our public safety. OAASIS hopes you'll join us in supporting House Bill 2633.