



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Psychiatric Security Review Board

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TO: Senator Floyd Prozanski, Chair  
Senate Judiciary Committee, State of Oregon

FR: Sid Moore, J.D., Deputy Director  
Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB)

RE: Written Comment for Hearing on HB 2633

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, Senators Dembrow, Linthicum, and Manning; thank you for allowing me the opportunity for input on this important legislation. My name is Sid Moore; I am the Deputy Director for the Oregon Psychiatric Security Review Board.

In the PSRB's view, requiring minimum standards for sexual abuse-specific treatment providers will help improve both public safety and treatment for PSRB patients who have committed sex offenses. Providers of this type of treatment, along with other clinical experts, will share arguments containing more clinical detail, but I would like to take a few moments to give you PSRB's perspective. As you know, PSRB monitors patients who have successfully asserted the "guilty except for insanity" defense, some of whom have committed sex offenses. These individuals' treatment while under PSRB supervision is vital to both public safety and recovery.

### Certification and Treatment Standards

House Bill 2633 will continue the Oregon Legislature's recent history of providing tools to help PSRB enhance public safety, like it did when it added the certified evaluator requirement for court evaluation of GEI cases in 2011. The sexual abuse-specific treatment certification requirement in the current bill increases PSRB's confidence that the Board's patients who have committed sex offenses are evaluated using uniform standards, and are treated using sound tools designed to reduce their risk of re-offense. Better treatment of such patients leads to a safer public as patients gain more insight and coping skills, making them less likely to re-offend.

Uniform evaluation standards for treatment providers help ensure that providers' testimony is based on consistent standards across cases. The Board depends on such testimony in deciding whether to place patients on conditional release in the community (and if so, where to place them). The more reliable the information, the more confidence the Board has in its placement decisions.

Consistent treatment standards affect long-term success for the PSRB's patients. Without these standards, providers with little or no specialized training can use (and have used) out-of-date treatment methods or those otherwise not accepted by certified sexual abuse-specific treatment

providers. Occasionally, some of these treatment methods are even worse than unhelpful—they actively inhibit the patient’s recovery process. Consistent treatment methods can help providers to assist those who have committed sex offenses in gaining insight into the thought patterns and processes that led to their offense. Increased insight by offenders leads to faster recovery and enhanced public safety, particularly when patients are placed on conditional release. The Psychiatric Security Review Board believes this bill addresses several of the limitations under the current law, and that it will lead to better outcomes for the public and for patients.