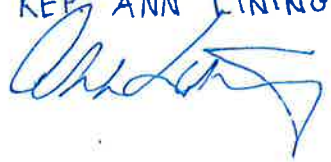




FROM THE DESK OF
REP. ANN LININGER


Everyone deserves a life free of domestic and sexual violence.

Please Support HB 2673

*A streamlined process for name change
and for updating personal information to reflect gender identity.*

Call to Safety's mission is to end domestic and sexual violence by providing confidential support services and education to empower our community. Call to Safety provides a statewide comprehensive 24/7 crisis line, follow-up advocacy for survivors, support groups, community outreach and education, and sexual assault medical advocacy.

Our clients contact us for help in their darkest times of crisis, as well as when they are moving forward with recovery after escaping abuse. Often, survivors of physical or sexual abuse who are transgender face additional barriers to safety and security. The change of a name, or an update to a birth certificate to reflect gender identity, can be a critical part of a survivor's safety plan. HB 2673 provides a safer, more streamlined process for transgender Oregonians to update their birth certificate, and helps victims of domestic and sexual violence safely access the name-change process.

The legislature has previously codified some helpful provisions of current law that protect confidentiality for survivors (the Attorney General's Address Confidentiality Program under ORS 192.820 and the general Non-Disclosure of records protections under ORS 192.445.) However, these statutes do not address all concerns.

A survivor in need of a change of name must currently provide public notice of the change, in person, by visiting the courthouse. The posting of personal information for all to see in the courthouse is contradictory to the safety goal of a name change for survivors.

HB 2673 removes the outdated posting requirement for name changes, and helps to streamline the process of updating personal information to reflect gender identity.

Please support HB 2673 to help protect all survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Thank you.