



## HB 4150: Sexual Harassment Reporting Reform

Letter of Support | February 6, 2018

To Chair Barker and members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

**Oregon Student Voice** (OSV) is writing in support of HB 4150 to reform K-12 sexual harassment reporting system, and provide all parties involved in a sexual harassment complaint be notified of the outcome.

**Who we are.** OSV is a student-led organization that empowers students to be authentic partners with K-12 education decision makers. As part of this mission, we actively promote student participation in the education policy-making process. We strive to advance policies that we believe will enhance Oregon's education system to better support all students and their learning.

**Support of HB 4150.** HB 4150 is a high priority issue for OSV. We believe that this bill remedies an important issue many students face each year after filing a sexual harassment complaint. Currently, many students are unclear about whether their complaint is being investigated and are uncertain about the safety of their learning environment. This uncertainty can cause further trauma to the victim and prevent them from continuing to learn in their school. OSV believes that all students should feel safe in their school environment and HB 4150 makes strides towards achieving this goal.

**Hesitations about HB 4150.** OSV believes that students should be able to ask about the status of their investigation and learn about potential actions being taken based on the outcome. We understand that these pieces were removed from the bill based on concerns for other organizations. However, we believe that it is crucial for students to have access to the status of the investigation and know any potential actions being taken to better support their safety. We hope that HB 4150 lays the groundwork for future legislation that provides more protections and rights for victims.

We hope that the House Committee on Judiciary approves HB 4150 and considers our concerns. We are in the process of collecting student testimony in support of HB 4150.

Thank you for your consideration,

*Oregon Student Voice*