



February 12th, 2018

TO: House Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee
FROM: Ricardo Lujan-Valerio, OSA Legislative Director
SUBJECT: *HB 4150 – K-12 Sexual Harassment Reform*

Chair Barker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ricardo Lujan-Valerio and I am the Legislative Director for the Oregon Student Association (OSA). Please allow this submission to serve as testimony in support of House Bill 4150.

HB 4150 opens the opportunity for our state to address sexual harassment within our K-12 system. It would require school districts to adopt policies that will enhance the timeliness of a sexual harassment investigation and resources available to victims.

As a leader within student movements, the Oregon Student Association welcomes Rep. Salinas' initiative to address an issue that our students often face. Students that have experienced sexual harassment often find themselves in limbo. They often cannot understand if reporting the harassment will lead to a solution or a prolonged state of pain and doubt due to often long and unclear investigations. Many also find it hard to find resources available for them. HB 4150, although not the ultimate answer, allows our state leaders in education to reform a system that does not effectively assist harassment victims.

I respectfully request that every member of this committee support House Bill 4150 on this committee and the House floor. Thank you for your time and consideration. I'm available for any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

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