



February 14, 2018

HB 4009 - Written Testimony

Rep. Barker and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 4009. I am the Executive Director of the Oregon Network of Child Abuse Intervention Centers. There are 24 independent centers located across the state, each providing a range of services including forensic interviews, and medical and mental health services for children when there are concerns of child abuse.

It is the Network's mission to provide a collaborative network of child abuse intervention centers working together to ensure quality, comprehensive services to provide Oregon's children the best possible opportunity to grow up healthy and safe. The Network is an Accredited State Chapter of the National Children's Alliance and partners with local, regional, and national organizations on issues that impact our response to child abuse victims in Oregon.

As you have likely been made aware, the Network has serious concerns about the language housed in Section 1 of the underlying bill. But, it is our understanding that Representative Sanchez and the other proponents have been willing to work and amend this language out- for that, we are thankful.

It is also our understanding that there is the potential for an interim workgroup to meet to discuss some of the issues that Section 1 of the underlying bill are attempting to address. As the centers that work closely with law enforcement, DHS, the courts, and most importantly, the families and children this bill attempts to protect, we believe a representative from Oregon Network of Child Abuse Intervention Centers would be a valuable asset to the workgroup.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Patty Terzian  
Executive Director, ONCAIC