



February 25, 2019

Dear Chair Williamson, Vice Chairs Gorsek and Sprenger, and Members of the House Judiciary Committee.

As the Executive Director for Emerj-SafeNow, a nonprofit that works with vulnerable communities and populations in Portland and Multnomah County, I am writing to ask you to support and amend the following bills:

**HB 2657 Comprehensive Violence Prevention:** Fund Comprehensive Violence Prevention programs in Oregon.

Without a dedicated source of funding for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Programs, struggle to survive. Due to lack of funding we lack infrastructure, technical assistance, and resources to fully implement effective comprehensive violence prevention education. HB2657 will establish \$3 million in dedicated source of funding allowing culturally specific programs to do this and provide us with the resources to work needed to reach vulnerable communities throughout the state.

Even in counties like Multnomah County, where EMERJ primarily works, prevention efforts are not comprehensive across schools, grade levels, schools, school districts and institutions. Organizations are doing the work on funding that only supports minimum dosage of education. Prevention programs are vital to ending oppressive and violent behaviors. Unless we teach healthy relationships, gender equity, consent, bystander intervention and education that focuses on ending child abuse, sexual assault and bullying, our State will continue to experience high rates of gender and sexual violence.

**HB 2472 Sex Offender Treatment Board:**

Please amend ORS 675.360 to 675.410 HB2472 will increase public safety by strengthening standards of practice for sex offense specific training providers. It will

- *Establish that only those certified shall practice sex offense specific treatment services.*
- *Establish an intern track in an effort to build treatment services capacity across the state.*
- *Rename "Secondary Associate Sex Offender Therapist" to "Secondary Clinical Sex Offender Therapist".*
- *Rename "Sex Offender Treatment Board" to "Sex Offense Treatment Board".*

Thank you for all for your hard work. On behalf of EMERJ-SafeNow, please support HB 2657 and amend **HB 2472. We must end sexual violence and increase public safety to protect all Oregonians** but especially our most vulnerable families

Sincerely,

*C. Haycraft*

**Carolyne Haycraft**

**Executive Director**

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