

February 24, 2019

Center for HOPE & SAFETY

Re: Support of HB 2472

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

The Center for Hope & Safety is encouraging your support of HB 2472, which will amend *ORS 675.360 to 675.410*, increasing public safety by strengthening standards of practice for sex offense specific treatment providers.



Formerly Mid-Valley Women's Crisis Service

The Center for Hope & Safety (CHS) has been providing comprehensive services to victims and survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking and human trafficking in Marion and Polk Counties since 1973. We provide a 24-hour crisis line, emergency confidential shelter, emergency transportation, support groups, accompaniment to hospitals and court, assistance with protection orders, and many other supportive services. Last year, CHS had more than 26,000 contacts to our program.

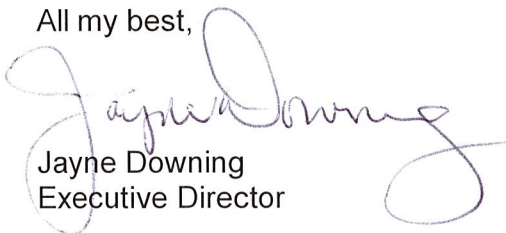
In our work with victims and survivors of sexual assault, we know it is important to partner with individuals working with the individuals that commit those offenses. The changes HB 2472 is supporting will strengthen the guidelines and professional standards in the field, leading to improved treatment and outcomes.

The advances to training and supervision will lead to greater professionalism and hold individuals accountable that do not rise level of competency required under the standards. The addition of the certification track for interns will encourage more professionals in the field. The change to first-person language will bring the work in line with current thinking in the field.

Together, the provisions of HB 2472 will improve the safety for Oregonians. We encourage your strong support.

Thank you for your consideration and all your work to make Oregon a better place to live and work.

All my best,


Jayne Downing
Executive Director

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because everyone deserves a life free of violence