

## Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force

## **House Committee on Human Services and Housing Testimony in Support of HB3178** March 13, 2019

Chair Keny Guyer, Vice Chairs Noble and Sanchez, and member of the committee,

On behalf of The Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force, I write to urge your strong support of HB3178.

The Sexual Assault Task Force is a private, non-profit, non-governmental statewide agency with over 100 multi-disciplinary members appointed by Attorney General Rosenblum. Members serve as advisors on 1 of 8 subcommittees including: Campus, Criminal Justice, Legislative & Public Policy, Medical-Forensic, Men's Engagement, Offender Management, Prevention Education, and Victim Response.

Our mission is to advance a mutli-disciplinary, survivor-centered approach to the prevention of and response to sexual violence in Oregon. Our goal is to prevent sexual violence from happening in the first place, while simultaneously improving our response efforts to mitigate trauma and ensure the safety and security of all victims.

Child Abuse Intervention Centers (CAIC) provide critical services to children and families experiencing abuse, neglect, and violence. CAICs ensure that children have a safe place to disclose abuse, neglect, and violence they are experiencing, enabling staff to properly diagnose and offer treatment services so that children can heal and access safety.

Unfortunately, the demand for services outpaces the capacity of CAICs, who are under-resourced and under-funded, limiting access to these critical services when children need them the most. We urge your support of HB3178 so that Oregon can more adequately address this public health crisis and help ensure that all of Oregon's children experience thriving and healthy lives.

Sincerely,

Michele Roland-Schwartz **Executive Director** 

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