

April 4, 2019

Re: House Bill 2375 – OAHHS Supports -1 Amendment

Chair Salinas and Members of the House Committee on Health Care:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2375 and the -1 amendment. On behalf of Oregon's 62 hospitals and health care systems, and the patients and communities they serve, we appreciate the great work of the Sexual Assault Response Team throughout Oregon and the sponsor for bringing this bill forward. OAHHS supports the -1 amendment to add a sexual assault nurse examiner or a representative of a hospital to the sexual assault response team in each county.

OAHHS has been working and building relationships with the Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force (Oregon SATF) over the past two years connecting hospitals with the Oregon SATF for technical assistance and resources relating to sexual assault education and training. This partnership has helped to bring awareness of the Oregon SATF to our hospitals and increased the number of nurses who are now trained as SANEs.

OAHHS supports the great work of the sexual assault response teams across Oregon and the addition of sexual assault nurse examiner or a representative of a hospital would assist in continuing the partnerships throughout Oregon on this important issue. This addition of "or a representative of a hospital" helps to ensure that the hospital stays connected with their local sexual assault response teams.

Thank you for your consideration of the -1 amendment to HB 2375. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Andi Easton
Vice President Government Affairs
Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems