

Kate Brown
Governor



Oregon Commission for Women
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House Committee on Rules
Testimony in support, SCR 25
June 10, 2019 at 3pm in Hearing Room C

Chair Holvey, Co Vice-Chairs Williamson and Wilson, and
Members of the House Committee on Rules:

My name is Julia Yoshimoto and I am a member of the Oregon
Commission for Women (OCFW), whose role is to advocate for the
women in Oregon. I am also the Project Director and Attorney for
the Women's Justice Project at Oregon Justice Resource Center
(OJRC).

The OCFW thanks you for the important message within SCR 25
for survivors of sexual violence and raising awareness of their
challenges and needs. The Commission has a long history of
supporting such efforts and is deeply committed to seeing this bill
pass.

At the most recent Commission meeting, the OCFW discussed SCR
25 and wishes to propose an addition/amendment to the bill wording
that would further recognize the prevalence of sexual violence in the
personal histories of incarcerated women and "survivor-
defendants", women who are survivors of sexual violence, who are
defendants in criminal proceedings. This group is largely
overlooked and endures additional trauma through criminal systems
not set up with women in mind. The suggested amendment:

*"Whereas we recognize that defendants in criminal proceedings may be survivors and should be
treated with respect throughout the criminal process.*

*Whereas survivors deserve respect, dignity, and trauma-informed care while detained in
correctional facilities and under correctional supervision in the community."*

I greatly appreciate House Majority Leader Jennifer Williamson, who, on the House Floor,
talked about the Coffee Creek Corrections Facility survey results published by the OJRC's
Women's Justice Project on [Intimate Partner Violence and Trauma](#), including statistics on those
surveyed with a history of sexual abuse. This report brings this hidden population of "survivor-
defendants" to light and I appreciate the recognition they received on the House Floor.

Thank you again for your good work on behalf of survivors of sexual trauma and for considering
this amendment to SCR 25 that will bring justice-involved women into the light.

Sincerely,

OR Commission for Women

Chair:

Dr. Barbara Spencer

Vice Chair:

Vacant

Commissioners:

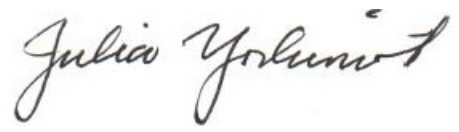
Dr. Doris Cancel-Tirado
Dr. Maura Kelly
Kassandra Krifka
Robin Morris Collin
Dr. Adrienne Ochs
Helen Richardson
Julia Yoshimoto

Legislative Members:

Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson
Representative Sheri Schouten

Staff:

Lucy Baker, Administrator
Nancy Kramer, Executive Asst.
Dr. Connie Kim-Gervey,
Research Analyst

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julia Yoshimoto". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Julia Yoshimoto, MSW, JD

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dr. Barbara Spencer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

Dr. Barbara Spencer, Chair