



## Open Government Impact Statement

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly  
2019 Regular Session

## Measure: HB 2859

Only impacts on Original or Engrossed  
Versions are Considered Official

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### SUMMARY

Creates privilege against disclosure for specified confidential communications and records created or maintained by Legislative Equity Office principal outreach officer. Provides exceptions.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

### OPEN GOVERNMENT IMPACT

Legislative Counsel has not adopted standards for drafting measures that establish exemptions from disclosure of public records.

This measure exempts from public disclosure communications between a victim of or witness to harassment in the State Capitol and the principal outreach officer of the Legislative Equity Office concerning the person's report of harassment, as well as records created or maintained by the officer in the course of reporting information concerning the reported harassment. The measure also exempts from public disclosure communications between a person and the officer and any records created or maintained by the officer in the course of consulting with individuals regarding available options for reporting harassment, filing a harassment complaint or understanding whether described conduct is harassment.

If the public records were instead subject to mandatory disclosure under public records law, the public could receive additional information regarding reports of harassment and individuals considering whether to report harassing behavior, but it would create a disincentive for individuals to report harassment to the principal outreach officer.