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February 25, 2020

RE: ODAА Support for SB 1575A

Chair Holvey and Members of the House Committee on Rules:

On behalf of the Oregon District Attorneys Association (ODAA) we offer our support for SB 1575A.

ODAA had two Deputy District Attorneys who specialize in aid and assist cases serve on the "SB 24 Implementation Interim Workgroup." These deputies spent countless hours on the workgroup which met over the Summer and Fall of 2019 to implement SB 24 (2019) as well as to address challenges that presented during that implementation. The final components contained in SB 1575A reflect months of thoughtful collaboration and negotiations between stakeholders.

SB 1575A includes a number of important changes to the statutes that impact how defendants that can't aid and assist in their own defense are handled. The bill contains several steps in the right direction including clarification as to the dangerousness determinations and safe restorations. Specifically, while the term dangerousness is removed from these statutes in SB 1575A, the concept and intent remain. In fact, we believe this revised language allows greater consideration of public safety considerations. This was the understanding and intent of the workgroup.

We thank you for your consideration and support of SB 1575A.

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