

The Oregon Adolescent Sex Offense Treatment Network Board of Directors endorses this bill as it is important that all clinicians working with juveniles who have committed sexual offenses are properly trained and follow the guidelines set forth by the OHLA Sex Offense Treatment Board. Too often youth are coming out of correction facilities with sub-par treatment. Consequently, they end up spending many more months, sometimes even a year, in additional treatment under the guise of 'after-care' treatment. This is an additional cost to the system and a frustration for the youth and their families. In addition, many courts are now aware of the SOTB certification and are not supporting these youth with the same disposition remedies if they completed work with a non-certified clinician. This could have a life long impact on our youth, for example, it can make the difference on whether or not a youth is required to register as a sex offender. This is a very specialized field that impacts the lives of youth in the system as well as community safety.

Thank you.

S. Kelly Crane, LCSW, CCSOT

President - OASOTN