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Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force

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**Support HB 5529**  
**Department of Human Services Budget**  
**March 30, 2021**  
**Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services**

Co-Chairs Lieber and Nosse, and Members of the Committee,

Support HB 5529 Department of Human Services Budget March 30, 2021 Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services.

On behalf of the Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force, I am pleased to submit testimony in support of HB 5529.

SATF is a private, non-profit, non-governmental statewide agency with over 100 multi-disciplinary members who serve as advisors to the Task Force, advancing our mission to support a multi-disciplinary, survivor-centered approach to the prevention of and response to sexual violence in Oregon.

The COVID pandemic has laid bare the critical need for a strong infrastructure to serve survivors of sexual and domestic violence. The Domestic Violence Co-located Advocate Program, Temporary Assistance to Domestic Violence Survivors, and the proposed Survivor Investment Partnership (SIP) are essential elements of our statewide infrastructure.

Advocates are able to customize safety plans, following the lead of survivors, and connect survivors and their children with life-saving supports like the TA-DVS program.

We know that these resources are underfunded and are therefore grateful for the addition of the SIP and Policy Option Package #130 which will invest \$10 million in funding to build upon the TA-DVS and Co-located advocate programs.

We thank the Governor's office, Oregon Tribes, culturally-specific domestic and sexual violence service providers, and community-based domestic and sexual violence service providers statewide who came together to develop this proposal. Funding for this program will ensure greater accessibility of advocacy services and meaningful financial support to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault including Tribal communities, individuals without children, and vulnerable populations.

We appreciate that the SIP recognizes that tribes and culturally-specific organizations know their communities best, and survivors know their circumstances best. For these reasons we urge your support and full funding of HB5529.