



Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force

Support HB2155

Submitted by: Michele Roland-Schwartz, Executive Director

May 6, 2021

On behalf of the Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force¹, I am pleased to submit testimony in support of HB2155, which modifies the child abuse mandatory reporting statute to clarify that domestic violence and sexual assault programs housed in larger organizations with a broader purpose are provided with the same mandatory reporting exemption that applies to standalone domestic violence and sexual assault service providers.

It was always the intent to exempt non-profits whose primary purpose is to provide confidential, direct services to victims of sexual and domestic violence, stalking, and human trafficking. HB2155 is a technical fix which provides a simple clarification of the statute and will be particularly helpful for culturally specific programs nested within larger umbrella sexual and domestic violence nonprofit agencies.

Passage of HB2155 will solidify survivor access to confidential services by offering a safe space whereby a survivor can share the full range of their needs, ensuring advocates are able to provide the full range of options in a safe environment that empowers victims in their decision-making.

SATF is grateful to the legislature for supporting the broader concept of exempting nonprofit programs from mandatory reporting and urges your support of HB2155.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MRS", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michele Roland-Schwartz
Executive Director

¹ The Sexual Assault Task Force is a private, non-profit, non-governmental statewide agency with over 100 multi-disciplinary members appointed by Attorney General Rosenblum. Members serve as advisors on 1 of 8 subcommittees including: Campus, Criminal Justice, Legislative & Public Policy, Medical-Forensic, Men's Engagement, Offender Management, Prevention Education, and Victim Response.