



Oregon Voices
PO Box 13175
Salem, OR 97302

May 16, 2021

TO: House Judiciary Committee
RE: SB 752

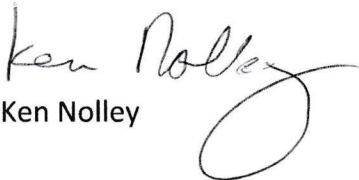
Chair Bynum, Vice Chair Noble, and members of the committee:

I am writing in support of SB 752 on behalf of Oregon Voices. In our work, we regularly encounter cases involving sexual relationships between juveniles and/or minors, some of which would be covered by this bill. Although Oregon Voices does not encourage or condone such relationships, we understand that some young people from all walks of life will and do become sexually active at an earlier age than we adults think healthy or wise. In a great many of these cases, the relationships are personally (if not legally) consensual, and are neither abnormal nor predatory. Nevertheless, many of these cases end up placing the older of the involved young persons on the sex offender registry.

The registry complicates and sometimes eliminates these young persons' prospects for higher education. It makes a decent start in the job market extremely difficult. And it can make finding housing nearly impossible for young people who can no longer live with their parents. In these kinds of cases, we believe that society and justice can be served without the degree of ancillary damage that comes from long sentences and the blighting of the first 15 or 20 years of these young persons' lives after whatever incarceration ensues.

We urge your support of SB 752.

Sincerely,


Ken Nolley