

February 22, 2022

Oregon State Legislature
House Judiciary Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: SB 1574A - SAFE Kit

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

On behalf of Oregon's 62 community hospitals and the patients they serve, the Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems (OAHS) supports SB 1574A. The bill is a legislative fix to the definition for sexual assault forensic evidence (SAFE) kit. We appreciate the Sexual Assault Task Forces work on this legislative fix and their overall collaborative nature with OAHS and Oregon hospitals to ensure survivors of sexual assault get access to the best care and resources.

This legislative fix will ensure a copy of the Medical Forensic Examination Form is included in the SAFE kit, which is then transferred to law enforcement for storage and processing. SAFE Kits are stored for 60 years. Under current law, if the Medical Forensic Examination Form (form) is not included with the SAFE Kit, the form is only maintained for 7-10 years from the date of service. SB 1574A will fix this current logistical flaw and ensure that forensic and written documentation are all included in the SAFE kit and preserved for 60 years. This would apply to all SAFE kits, including anonymous SAFE kits. The importance of the inclusion of the form is to ensure the SAFE kit is complete if a survivor decides to report to law enforcement after the time the hospital has purged its records and before the end of the 60 years, the SAFE kit will remain complete.

We support SB 1574A and appreciate the work that has gone into this legislation. Please join us and your community hospitals in supporting the bill.

Thank you,



Andi Easton
Vice President of Government Affairs
Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems