Submitter: Beatriz Lynch

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2479

January 17, 2023

RE: Support for HB 2479

Dear, Chair Reynolds, Vice Chairs Nguyen and Scharf and members of the House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services.

Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony in support of HB 2479. My name is Beatriz Lynch, I am the Executive Director of SafeSpace the children's advocacy center for the Columbia River Gorge. As a small center providing services to rural and frontier counties, being put in a position to have to defend from a frivolous or meritless lawsuit will create a hardship not only on the staff and board bur also child victims of abuse. Without liability protection SafeSpace CAC could be required to spend funds and time defending against a unmerited lawsuit this will definitely disrupt the services and may financially cripple the center.

Thank you for your time and consideration of HB 2479

Beatriz Lynch, Executive Director
SafeSpace Children's Advocacy Center of the Gorge
Serving Hood River, Wasco, Gilliam, Wheeler and Klickitat Counties
1625 Woods Court, Suite 102
Hood River, Oregon 97031 www.safespacecac.org