

# OREGON ATTORNEY GENERAL'S SEXUAL ASSAULT TASK FORCE



## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION SUPPORT HB 3114

FEBRUARY 9, 2023

SUBMITTED BY: OREGON ATTORNEY GENERAL'S SEXUAL ASSAULT TASK FORCE

Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Andersen and Wallan, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary,

Thank you for your time and consideration. My name is Bethany Walmsley, and I serve as the interim executive director for the Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force. **Along with my colleagues at the Task Force, we urge you to support House Bill 3114.**

*At the Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force (Oregon SATF), our mission is to facilitate and support a collaborative, survivor-centered approach to the prevention of and response to sexual violence. We accomplish our mission by advancing primary prevention and providing multi-disciplinary training and technical assistance to responders in Oregon and nationally.*

House Bill 3114 provides an important measure of privacy and safety for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking when they and their children seek shelter after experiencing violence.

Each year, the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) conducts a national count of domestic violence services offered by community domestic violence and sexual assault agencies, in which Oregon participates. In the latest available report,<sup>1</sup> data demonstrated that emergency shelter was the most requested service for survivors seeking support in Oregon (68%). The data also showed that each day, an average of 100 survivors do not receive the emergency housing they need due to lack of safe housing resources.

Our agency is supportive of endeavors that seek to promote survivor privacy and increase access to safe emergency housing (like hotels and motels). We urge your support of HB 3114. Sincerely,

Bethany Walmsley  
Interim Executive Director

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<sup>1</sup> National Network to End Domestic Violence. (2022). (rep.). *NNEDV 16th-Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report, Oregon Summary*.