

OREGON ATTORNEY GENERAL'S SEXUAL ASSAULT TASK FORCE



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY SUPPORT HB 4123

FEBRUARY 5, 2024

SUBMITTED BY: MEIRA POMEGRANATE, SANE COORDINATOR FOR THE OREGON
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S SEXUAL ASSAULT TASK FORCE

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

My name is Meira Pomegranate. I serve as the Sexual Assault Nurse Examination (SANE) Coordinator for the Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force. I am here to express our strong support for HB 4123, which is crucial for the effective functioning of the SANE Certification Commission (SCC).

The Sexual Assault Task Force is a non-profit organization committed to preventing and responding to sexual violence in Oregon. The SANE program provides training and support to medical providers across the state, enabling them to deliver expert medical care to sexual assault survivors.

The SCC is established under legislation and is responsible for overseeing SANE certification and competency. It is composed of diverse multidisciplinary experts, from medical, law enforcement, advocacy, and more- who are appointed to ensure anyone who has experienced sexual assault has access to the best possible care and response.

The SCC is the backbone of ensuring that these medical-forensic services adhere to the highest standards of care. For more than two decades, this commission has supported, educated, and certified hundreds of medical providers across the state, who, in turn, deliver care in their local communities.

Oregon's SANE workforce is in need of growth and expansion to meet the needs of survivors, especially in rural and frontier parts of the state, and the SCC requires consistent, sustainable funding in order to meet these needs. House Bill 4123 will provide the necessary funding to the SCC, ensuring that survivors across Oregon receive the care they deserve.

Your backing is not just funding a program- but is a commitment to the safety, well-being, and justice for sexual assault survivors across the state. By voting yes on HB 4123 , you are investing in a sustainable, resilient system that stands strong for Oregonians.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Meira Pomegranate
SANE Coordinator
Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force