

Submitter: Monique Bochsler  
On Behalf Of: Oregon and Precinct 56  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2640

Good morning,

My name is Monique Bochsler, I am an Oregonian that is opposed to HB 2640.

I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to House Bill 2640, which aims to repeal certain provisions concerning harassment. I firmly believe that this repeal would weaken the protections currently afforded to victims and could lead to significant negative consequences for our communities. Harassment is a critical issue that impacts individuals from all backgrounds. Eliminating these provisions could foster a legal atmosphere that encourages harassers and diminishes the avenues available for victims to seek justice and protection. It is essential that we continue to uphold measures that safeguard individuals from harassment in all its forms. Rather than diminishing existing protections, we should be enhancing them. In Oregon, a Class A violation is treated similarly to a traffic infraction, allowing offenders to commit crimes without facing serious repercussions, which ultimately increases the risk for Oregonians. Addressing lesser crimes with appropriate consequences can significantly alleviate the burden of major crimes on law enforcement. This bill further diminishes protections for law enforcement by restricting the definition of aggravated harassment to instances of spitting only when there is a risk of communicable disease. This sends a message that officers can be disrespected through spitting without consequence. I strongly urge you to reconsider the ramifications of HB 2640 and to prioritize the safety and well-being of every member of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Monique Bochsler