



Oregon Voices  
PO Box 13175  
Salem, OR 97302

March 4, 2025

Senator Prozanski (Chair),  
Senator Thatcher (Vice-Chair),  
and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Oregon Voices in support of SB 819. I have been involved with issues surrounding the registry for more than a decade. I served on the work group that drafted the bill that set up Oregon's risk-based registry in 2012 and 2013. Following that, along with members of the Parole Board, county corrections, the state police, and others I participated in a group tasked with educating agencies and the public on the new law. Leading up to the rollout of the current system, I served on an advisory committee to the Board as it devised policies and procedures for relief and reclassification hearings. I am richly conversant with current practice, and I respect the careful and responsible way in which both BPPPS and the OSP registry office go about their work.

Specifically with regard to SB 819, I have attended relief hearings and have worked with a significant number of individuals preparing for hearings. The process of applying for relief or reclassification is both a rigorous and comprehensive one that requires a great deal of work and thought from applicants. It also may involve give and take between the applicant and the Board, who are diligent in ensuring that the required burden of proof is met before they grant relief or reclassification. And with a decade of experience, the Board has a rich sense of whether all of their questions have been answered before they hold a hearing.

As the number of applicants seeking relief or reclassification has grown, the time constraints for holding hearings have led to an 8-month wait between the completed application and an available hearing time. This is likely to get worse and a growing number of applicants enter the process.

The proposed change will allow the board to deal more efficiently with applications without sacrificing the care they bring to the process. We urge your support for SB 819.

Sincerely,

Ken Nolley for the Oregon Voices