

March 4, 2025

To the Senate Committee Members,

Re: Testimony in opposition to **Senate Bill 820**, *Provides that the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision is required to classify sex offender registrants convicted before January 1, 2014, into a risk level only in specified circumstances*

I am the mother of three school-aged children, and a Happy Valley resident. I am writing in opposition to Senate Bill 820.

In our community, we currently have a registered, but unclassified Level 3 sex offender. His children attend school and participate in sports with my children. We learned of his crimes and conviction by word of mouth, looked up his criminal record, and were immediately troubled that we had not been notified as community members given the serious nature of his crimes. Due to Oregon's backlog of offenders, he has lived here over a decade without ever receiving a classification. While I fully believe his children should be active community members, I also believe a person with his criminal record should be beholden to the constraints classification would impose upon him.

The safety of our children should be the top priority here, not easing the burden of classification. Ensuring all sex offenders are classified will help to protect our kids.

I urge you to vote no on Senate Bill 820 and Senate Bill 821. Instead, please quickly approve Senate Bill 1068 which will help the problem from continuing to get worse by carrying over offender classifications from other states.

Please continue to diligently work to address the issue of the classification backlog and do all that you can to ensure our children can grow up in safe environments.

Respectfully,
Gwen Tomac
Happy Valley, OR