

Submitter: Benjamin Roche
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB821

Members of the Senate Committee On Judiciary

Chair Senator Floyd Prozanski
Vice-Chair Senator Kim Thatcher
Member Senator Anthony Broadman
Member Senator Sara Gelser Blouin
Member Senator James Manning Jr.
Member Senator Mike McLane

Subject: Strong Opposition to Senate Bill 821

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 821, which seeks to eliminate the deadline for assessing the risk levels of sex offenders in Oregon. The government's foremost duty is to uphold the rule of law and ensure the safety of its citizens. Removing the requirement for timely classification of sex offenders undermines both of these responsibilities.

Sex offender risk assessments serve a crucial role in public safety by allowing law enforcement and the community to have a clear understanding of the potential danger posed by convicted offenders. By eliminating the deadline for these assessments, SB 821 creates an unacceptable risk of indefinite delays, leaving communities without critical information and weakening the protections intended by existing laws.

It is the responsibility of our government to follow the law and enforce policies that prioritize the safety of Oregonians. Delaying—or in some cases, failing to complete—risk assessments puts the public at risk and erodes trust in the justice system. If anything, we should be working to strengthen oversight and enforcement rather than weakening it.

I urge you to oppose this bill and instead advocate for legislation that ensures timely and thorough risk assessments for all sex offenders. The safety of our communities must not be compromised by bureaucratic inaction or legislative neglect.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your action in support of public safety on this critical issue.

Sincerely,
Ben Roche

Albany, OR