Submitter:	Emma Brown
On Behalf Of:	Survivor Services POP 327 and HB 3196
Committee:	Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Public Safety
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB5014

Co-Chairs Broadman and Evans, and Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee On Public Safety,

I urge you to pass two pieces of legislation. The first is the Department of Justice Budget POP# 327 that will provide ongoing funding to stabilize critical survivor services programs ($22M). This will maintain the same funding levels as in past years to ensure survivors of interpersonal violence can access the support they need and deserve, including crisis intervention, emergency shelter, safety planning, and advocacy.

The second is HB 3196, which will backfill VOCA funding ($18.5M). Federal legislators are actively working on a sustainable fix for VOCA (H.R. 909), which has bipartisan support and, at last count, 148 co-sponsors. This one-time investment will ensure that when crime victims turn to agencies and systems providers for support, help will be there.

Victims of domestic violence are so often overlooked and in many cases, it's life or death situations. Victims are blamed for not leaving, not sticking up for themselves, etc when in reality it's NEVER that simple. Our communities HAVE to do a better job of supporting those experiencing DV. I've seen first hand how these situations affect friends and family and it's truly heartbreaking that victims often have no where to turn. DV services offer hope and light into some of the darkest situations that someone can experience. Defunding these services WILL cause lives to be lost and I truly don't understand how any one could be okay having that on their conscience knowing they voted to defund these vital services.

I urge you to vote in favor of POP# 327 and HB 3196. These funds are crucial for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Thank you for your support and the opportunity to provide testimony.
Sincerely,
Emma Brown
?Resident of Beaverton