

March 8, 2019

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> MAYOR Sally Russell

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On December 19, 2018, the Bend City Council voted unanimously to support Senate Bill 576, known as "Kaylee's Law." The proposed legislation would clarify roles and responsibilities for security services at Oregon's colleges and universities. Kaylee's law is supported by, among others, the Oregon Student Association, Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Oregon State Sheriff's Association.

The proposed legislation provides professional standards for community college and university security teams. The lack of consistent statewide standards has led to mission creep by some security units, in some cases leading to confusion and misunderstandings about whether they are law enforcement agencies. This jeopardizes the civil rights of Oregon's students and citizens, and can compromise safety at our educational institutions.

For decades, Oregon's public universities have had the ability to establish police departments, and have been subject to standards for their non-police public safety programs. Kaylee's Law provides consistency between public universities and other higher education institutions, including community colleges, to provide accountability to the taxpayers and students the institutions serve.

Kaylee's Law would ensure that individuals could only be arrested or detained under appropriate circumstances, and would not be subject to being stopped and frisked other than by actual police officers. Further, Kaylee's Law would for the first time provide clear guidance to distinguish the outward appearance of non-police uniforms and vehicles from those of certified law enforcement agencies, helping to insure students and citizens know when they are dealing with an actual police officer.

Most importantly, Kaylee's Law provides standards that, had they been in place, could have prevented the kidnapping, rape, and murder of Kaylee Sawyer, a student and young member of our community. The Council supports Kaylee's Law as an essential step to make a safer environment on all college campuses and prevent future tragedies.

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Sincerely,

Sally Russell Sally Russell Mayor