



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATE: April 23, 2019
TO: Honorable Floyd Prozanski, Chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary
FROM: Aaron Knott, Legislative Director
SUBJECT: HB 2472: Sexual Offense Therapy

This testimony is presented in support of HB 2472.

Background:

The goal of sex offense therapy is to diminish the recurrence of abusive behaviors by a variety of offenders through treatment and rehabilitation. Individuals who undergo this type of therapy are often referred or mandated by government agencies such as the Board of Parole and Post Prison Supervision, state or community corrections or the courts. The Sexual Offender Treatment Board within the Oregon Health Licensing Office is responsible for overseeing the practices of certified clinical sex offender therapists in the state.

Concept:

HB 2472 makes a number of technical changes related to the scope and practice of sexual offense therapy in Oregon. The bill will also ensure that only those who are properly certified may provide these sex offense specific treatment services, and it establishes an intern track in order to increase the services available throughout the state. The Sexual Offense Treatment Board, as redefined in HB 2472, will be responsible for establishing qualifications and training requirements that must be met by individuals who practice in this field.

The bill will help to ensure that that only competent professionals are providing this type of treatment, and that they utilize up to date standards of practice for sexual abuse specific treatment that is both ethical and evidence based.

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