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## Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force

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**Support HB4132**  
**House Committee on Education**  
**February 3, 2020**

Chair Doherty and Members of the House Committee on Education:

On behalf of The Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force, I am pleased to submit this testimony in support of HB4132

The Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force is a private, non-profit, non-governmental statewide agency with over 100 multi-disciplinary members appointed by Attorney General Rosenblum. Members serve as advisors on 1 of 8 subcommittees including: Campus, Criminal Justice, Legislative & Public Policy, Medical-Forensic, Men's Engagement, Offender Management, Prevention Education, and Victim Response.

Our mission is to advance a multi-disciplinary, survivor-centered approach to the prevention of and response to sexual violence in Oregon. Our goal is to prevent sexual violence from happening in the first place, while simultaneously improving our response efforts to mitigate trauma and ensure the safety and security of all victims.

The Oregon Student Health Survey is a critically important instrument to gather data from youth on their experiences as students in relation to a variety of factors, including - hunger, mental health challenges, experiences of trauma, and sexual health. This survey data gives us detailed information about the climate and structure of our schools, ultimately supporting agencies and school districts working to implement the Student Success Act and its initiatives on student health and safety; mental and behavioral health supports; and equity.

The Oregon Student Health Survey is an anonymous and voluntary research-based survey currently administered to 6th, 8th, and 11th graders. As the only source of statewide data on school climate and the health and well-being of Oregon students, the survey provides essential data that help schools and communities focus on the things that are crucial to ensuring successful youth development, including: access to health and dental care; social/emotional wellbeing; mental health (including experiences of depression or suicidal ideation); sexual activity and HIV/AIDS knowledge; school safety and bullying; housing security; nutrition and physical activity; tobacco, vaping, and substance use; healthy relationships and more.

SATF relies heavily on the data from this survey which supports our work in advancing intervention and prevention methods to support the advancement of healthy norms and uphold survivor centered strategies in collaboration with our statewide partners.

SATF urges the committee to vote yes on HB 4132. Please codify and fund the Oregon Student Health Survey and provide the critical resources necessary to help schools and communities make data-informed decisions about the health and well-being of their students now and for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MRS', written in a cursive style.

Michele Roland-Schwartz  
Executive Director  
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