

Trafficking Law Center

Portland, OR
(503) 224-5950
www.traffickinglawcenter.org



March 25, 2021

TO: House Judiciary Committee
RE: Joel Shapiro, Executive Director, Trafficking Law Center, written testimony
in support of HB 2400

Chair Bynum and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

The Trafficking Law Center strongly supports HB 2400. The Trafficking Law Center (TLC) works to support human trafficking victims and survivors by providing *pro bono* legal services, training attorneys, and educating the public and policymakers on human trafficking issues.

HB 2400 would allow victims of sexual assault or domestic violence, including many victims of human trafficking, to obtain police reports for their cases. TLC also supports the language of HB 2418 – which we hope will be amended into HB 2400 – to guarantee the right of sexual assault victims to review their case file at a DA's office.

The vast majority of TLC's clients have been subjected to sexual assault and violence, either by their traffickers or by sex buyers. Although law enforcement officials in the Portland metro area generally work very collaboratively with trafficking victims, we have represented clients who've been unable to obtain or view police reports in their cases. We have heard from advocates in other parts of the state that there can be difficulties in working with law enforcement agencies on trafficking cases. HB 2400 (and the language of HB 2418) would afford important and much-needed victims' rights.

We urge the House Judiciary Committee to adopt the language of HB 2418 as an amendment and to pass HB 2400.