



Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force

Support HB2935
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation
May 13, 2021

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of The Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force, we offer our support of HB2935, also known as The CROWN Act.

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 the Attorney General. Members serve as advisors on 1 of 8 subcommittees including: Advocacy Response, Campus, Criminal Justice, Legislative & Public Policy, Medical-Forensic, Men's Engagement, Offender Management, and Prevention Education.

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 CROWN Act aligns with our mission to prevent sexual violence by reinforcing dignity and autonomy for all Oregonians, particularly survivors using protective hairstyles as well as culturally specific or religious attire. It reduces the risk of discrimination, harassment, abuse, and violence by establishing further protections that dress codes in the workplace and educational settings are equitable and do "not have a disproportionate adverse impact on members of a protected class to a greater extent than the policy impacts persons generally."

HB2935 is a critical step toward the implementation of protective factors against discrimination. It is with great pleasure that we support this legislation and urge your support of its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MRS", written over a white background.

Michele Roland-Schwartz
Executive Director
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