

House Committee on Judiciary Support SB766 May 14, 2021

Chair Bynum, Vice Chairs Noble and Power, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of SB766, which is a technical fix to Oregon's Sexual Abuse Protective Order (SAPO). Here in Tillamook County, Tides of Change advocates serve survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and trafficking. It was a good day in Oregon when the SAPO went into effect in 2014, providing a critical pathway to safety for survivors of sexual assault who are not eligible for other orders of protection. The 2019 legislative changes to the SAPO provided even stronger protection for survivors.

SB 766 will make two critical technical fixes to the SAPO statute to ensure that the privacy and safety of victims of sexual assault are upheld. These fixes will remove the potential public release of the survivor's: (1) Personally identifying information (a minor survivor's date of birth); and (2) Sexual history as outlined in the SAPO petition in instances that alternative service is utilized.

We who daily sit with survivors of sexual assault bring their voices to you through these words. We—and they—are deeply grateful for Oregon legislators who hear them and work to provide them with meaningful protection through civil-legal remedies. Your support for SB766 is just one more step to safety for survivors.

With gratitude,

Beth Hope

Beth Hope Advocate & Community Response Coordinator Tides of Change beth@tidesofchangenw.org