## **TIX** Education Specialists "Bridging compliance and best practice."

## SB1572 Senate Committee on Education February 8, 2022

Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Thomsen, and members of the committee,

TIX Education Specialists (TIXEdu) provides training, technical assistance, and investigation services to Oregon K-12 schools and institutions of higher education. TIXEdu partners with schools to respond to instances of sexual assault and other forms of interpersonal violence. We strive to bridge compliance with federal and state mandates with evidence-based, trauma-informed best practices to help educators and school administrators serve their communities best.

I am writing you today in support of SB1572, the Campus Sexual Assault Prevention & Support bill. It has been encouraging in recent years to see the legislature's continued commitment to conversations and legislation to help Oregon schools better respond to sexual violence. We have members on the Senate Committee on Education and beyond to thank for that. SB1572 presents the unique opportunity to focus on one of the most cost-effective public health tools available, prevention. I would like to thank Senator Riley for having this conversation during the 2021 session and Senator Wagner for continuing to push this issue forward in 2022.

As a state we have tirelessly worked to support schools in developing and implementing response processes to sexual violence and harassment. It is now time for us to do the challenging work of making an equal commitment to developing and implementing prevention efforts to mitigate violence before it occurs. Educators and administrators have long voiced their readiness and need for additional prevention efforts. Sexual violence prevention in our educational institutions is key to not only supporting our students and educators, but also in ensuring every Oregonian has an opportunity to access an education free of violence.

For these reasons we urge your support of SB1572.

Respectfully,

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