

# OREGON ATTORNEY GENERAL'S SEXUAL ASSAULT TASK FORCE



## SUPPORT SB 5514 JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY MARCH 2, 2023

Chair Sollman, Chair Evans, and members of the committee:

On behalf of the Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force (SATF),<sup>1</sup> thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 5514 and more specifically, Policy Option Package #308.

I also want to acknowledge Attorney General Rosenblum: thank you for your support today, and for your continued dedication to supporting SATF, and survivors of sexual violence in Oregon.

*As a statewide non-profit, non-governmental agency formed in 1999, 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 survivors.*

We know that each day, sexual violence is impacting the lives of Oregonians. Over half of women, and almost 1 in 3 men, have experienced sexual violence involving physical contact during their lifetimes, with women of color, particularly Black and Indigenous women, experiencing disproportionate rates of violence.<sup>2</sup>

Your approval of the full amount requested for ODSVS funding ensures that the very people our agency supports through training and technical assistance have the resources necessary to do the very difficult, important work needed to support survivors. This includes advocates, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs), and other front-line staff responding to sexual violence in Oregon.

**By supporting SB 5514, you are securing the ability of community-based programs to respond to survivors at their moment of most critical need**

CVSSD provides exemplary leadership to reduce the impact of crime on victims' lives by supporting statewide and county-based victim services programs, promoting victims' rights, and providing access to information in a compassionate, responsive, and dedicated manner.

**It is imperative that we sustain and invest in the infrastructure and strong leadership of CVSSD to further our efforts to support survivors of harassment, abuse, and violence in Oregon.**

**For this reason, we urge your full support of SB5514 and the Policy Option Package #308.**

Thank you for your time this afternoon, I welcome any questions you may have.

Respectfully,



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Interim Executive Director  
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<sup>1</sup> SATF has a proud history of addressing sexual violence in Oregon, the spirit of which comes from our volunteer membership. Appointed by Attorney General Rosenblum, members serve 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 improve the response to and prevention of sexual violence in Oregon through multi-disciplinary training, technical assistance, and policy advocacy.

<sup>2</sup> Basile KC, Smith SG, Kresnow M, Khatiwada S, & Leemis RW. (2022). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2016/2017 Report on Sexual Violence. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.