



**TO: Rep. Jason Kropf, Chair
Rep. Kim Wallan, Vice Chair
Rep. Tom Andersen, Vice Chair
Members of House Judiciary Committee**

**FR: Amanda Dalton
On behalf of OR District Attorneys Association**

RE: HB 3443 - SUPPORT

March 20, 2022

ODAA urges the committee to support HB 3443. The bill would strengthen Oregon's response to bias crimes and makes common sense changes to tenancy law to ensure that renters, when they are victims of bias crimes, are not further victimized in the process. Both bias crimes and incidents continue to be an issue that negatively impacts our communities and citizens and this bill would build on previous bias crime and incident legislation.

ODAA particularly supports the bill's proposed addition of bias crimes to the list of crimes that direct both courts and release assistance officers to impose mandatory no contact orders between defendants and victims. This is a commonsense update to the statute that recognizes that victims of bias crimes deserve the certainty that courts will order that the offender not have contact with them while awaiting their trial.

Additionally, ODAA supports the inclusion of bias crimes as a crime that triggers particular victims' rights such as the right to consultation before a plea offer is made and the right to be notified of court proceedings. While many District Attorney offices already provide these rights, codification of them in statute will ensure that this important right is uniformly provided.

Finally, ODAA also wants to highlight its support for the inclusion of bias crimes in renter's laws, the expansion of address confidentiality for bias crime victims and for hotline employees. All of these updates to our laws will have a meaningful impact on bias crime victims and the dedicated Department of Justice staff who work in this field.

ODAA would like to thank the Attorney General for leading the conversation on this issue and urges support for the bill.