

SUPPORT SENATE BILL 710

Judicial Education on Domestic & Sexual Violence

83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2025 Regular Session Sponsors: Senator Sollman, Senator Weber, Senator Thatcher

## Overview

From the Desk of Senator Janeen Sollman

Senate Bill 710 with its pending amendments will create education standards within the Oregon Judicial Department to provide education and support for judges regarding cases involving domestic and sexual violence (DVSA).

## Why This Matters

Judicial education on DVSA is critical to ensuring fair and informed decision-making in cases involving perpetrators, survivors, and their children. Proper training equips judges with the knowledge to recognize the complexities of abuse, understand trauma responses, and prioritize survivor and child safety in custody and legal proceedings. Without this education, courts may inadvertently retraumatize victims or fail to recognize coercive control and other abuse dynamics, putting survivors and their children at further risk.

Passage of SB 710 will ensure that judges have access to reliable and consistent education, support, and resources regarding the complex and difficult case dynamics present when a case involves domestic or sexual violence. This bill will benefit parties, witnesses, children, parents, lawyers, and court staff by ensuring greater identification of and more effective response to interpersonal violence in court cases.

## **Key Objectives**



The Chief Justice will establish minimum judicial education standards to ensure that all circuit court judges receive training on DVSA-related issues;



The State Court Administrator will implement evidence-based, culturally and trauma-informed education related to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and other matters related to interpersonal violence;



Curriculum development will be informed by community experts;



A progress report will be submitted to the Legislature in 2026.