

OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, and Members of the Committee,

Every survivor of sexual assault deserves access to trauma-informed, skilled medical care in the aftermath of their assault. The specialized services provided by Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) are critical to ensuring safety, justice, and healing for survivors across Oregon.

Despite the urgent need for these services, our state faces a severe shortage of certified SANEs. Many rural and underserved areas are left without access to forensic medical exams, leaving survivors with nowhere to turn in their most vulnerable moments. HB 3070 addresses this crisis by establishing dedicated state funding for the SANE Certification Commission (SCC), ensuring this essential workforce's sustainability and guaranteeing survivors have access to trained professionals when they need them.

The SCC oversees competency and standards of care for forensic exams, processes certification applications, and ensures coordination with key response partners, including advocates, law enforcement, and prosecutors. However, the commission has long been underfunded, creating gaps in access and leaving entire regions of our state without a single certified SANE. Currently, 17 counties in Oregon have no certified SANEs, forcing survivors to travel extensive distances for care. This is unacceptable.

HB 3070 will provide the stable, ongoing funding necessary to support the SCC, expand outreach for recruitment and training, and strengthen the SANE workforce statewide. By investing in this program, we are investing in the well-being of survivors, the integrity of our justice system, and the safety of our communities.

I urge you to take action and pass HB 3070. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Representative Annessa Hartman House District 40 – Gladstone, Oregon City, North Clackamas County