

REPRESENTATIVE ANNESSA HARTMAN (SHE/HER)  
HOUSE DISTRICT 40



## OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in strong support of HB 3196. My name is Annessa Hartman, and I have the privilege of representing House District 40- Gladstone, Oregon City, and parts of Unincorporated Clackamas County.

While I may call HD40 home, it also happens to be home to some of the most critical service providers in Clackamas County, who stand on the frontlines of victim support. As a survivor, I can tell you personally how incredibly important these services are to someone who is going through their worst moment—when all they need is someone to simply offer them hope, a sense of dignity, and show them that there is a path forward and this worst moment does not define them.

Clackamas Women’s Services is Clackamas County’s only nonprofit with the sole mission dedicated to supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence. They provide more than 11,000 nights of emergency shelter every year and run a 24/7 crisis line that thousands of survivors depend on.

The Children’s Center of Clackamas County offers forensic interviews, medical evaluations, and trauma-informed advocacy so children and their families can begin the long road to healing after experiencing abuse.

Safety Compass works specifically with survivors of human trafficking, helping them escape dangerous situations and access the resources they need to rebuild their lives.

The Clackamas County District Attorney Victim Assistance Program (DAVAP) ensures that survivors have the legal advocacy and emotional support they need to navigate the justice system, a system that can often feel cold, intimidating, and indifferent to their pain.

CASA of Clackamas County plays a crucial role in advocating for children in the foster care system, ensuring their voices are heard, and their best interests are represented as they navigate the complexities of the child welfare and legal systems.

These organizations provide life-saving services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and human trafficking—offering hope, dignity, and a path forward when all seems lost.

Oregon's victim service organizations are already stretched thin, and a 42% cut to VOCA funding will have devastating consequences, particularly in rural and underserved communities where survivors struggle to access support. Without immediate action, shelters will close, crisis hotlines will be overwhelmed, and survivors will be left with nowhere to turn—allowing abusers to go unchallenged and cycles of violence to continue unchecked.

HB 3196 is a lifeline, providing support to backfill the VOCA shortfall and ensure victim services remain stable. We cannot afford to wait for uncertain federal action; we must take responsibility now to protect survivors and ensure we do not abandon them in their greatest moment of need.

I urge you to pass HB 3196 and uphold Oregon's commitment to life-saving victim services. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Annessa Hartman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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