

Submitter: Stephanie Wagner
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB820

I strongly oppose Oregon Senate Bill 820, as it introduces a dangerous and unnecessary change to the process of managing sex offender registrants in Oregon. By allowing certain sex offenders convicted before January 1, 2014, to potentially avoid being classified under risk levels, this bill undermines public safety and places vulnerable communities at greater risk. The current classification system is designed to provide transparency and ensure that law enforcement and the public are aware of individuals who may pose a threat. Modifying this system could reduce the ability of local authorities and communities to effectively monitor and protect citizens from individuals who have committed serious offenses in the past.

Furthermore, this bill sends the wrong message about the severity of sex offenses and the ongoing need for proper oversight. Allowing sex offenders who have not completed appropriate risk assessments to avoid the classification process contradicts the goals of rehabilitation and safety. It risks reintegrating individuals into society without proper monitoring, which could lead to future harm. Protecting Oregon's children and communities should be a top priority, and Senate Bill 820 would erode the safeguards that have been put in place to maintain that protection. I urge you to vote 'no' on this bill to ensure that Oregon remains committed to prioritizing public safety and holding offenders accountable.