

Mark Meek
State Senator
District 20



Oregon State Senate

March 26, 2025

House Committee on Judiciary
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for HB 3582-1

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 3582, which would eliminate the civil statute of limitations for cases of child sexual abuse and sexual assault.

The strict time limits on filing civil claims that are currently in place fail to consider the profound and lasting impact that abuse can have on a person's ability to seek justice. By eliminating these time constraints, HB 3582 allows survivors to pursue accountability on their own timeline, without the pressure of an arbitrary deadline.

Additionally, the -1 amendment makes an important adjustment by removing the word "knowingly" from relevant statutes. This change ensures that institutions and organizations cannot avoid responsibility simply by claiming they were unaware of reported abuse, even when credible allegations were made. Holding organizations accountable for abuse that happens under their watch is essential to ensuring that survivors are protected and that responsible parties are not shielded from liability.

Oregon has the opportunity to align with other states that have removed similar limitations, showing a strong commitment to supporting survivors and prioritizing justice. I respectfully urge the committee to support HB 3582 and the -1 amendment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mark Meek
State Senator – District 20