

29 April 2025

TO: Chair Kroph, Co-Chair Wallin, Graybar & Members of the House Committee on Judiciary
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

FROM: Laurie Kimmell

SUBJECT: HB 1122 -A

ATTENTION: FOR ALL REVIEWING AUTHORITIES

1. Please accept this as my testimony for HB 1122-A. I oppose this bill. I have honorably served in law enforcement for almost 30 years. This bill changes the trajectory of classification of sex offenders to the Parole Board. The Parole Board is an appointed entity which is accountable to the Governor not the people. They have not made the best of decisions (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Laurence_Marquette). This bill puts sole discretion on downgrading sex offenders upon the Parole Board which is an unelected position.
2. This bill does not consider that there is a victim. No risk assessment tool can erase trauma, violence, and fear that a victim endures. The scars still exist after years after the rape, sex abuse, and having this behavior forced upon them. Some of these offenders go out and commit these crimes several times over. (I know of one offender that during my tenure in law enforcement forced himself upon his brother. He has committed several sex related crimes since then and is still serving for *Rape I, Sodomy I, Sex Abuse I*).
3. There was not any fiscal impact statement for this bill. The Parole Board gave testimony that it would increase their workload. The increased workload would require extra staff. The increase of staff would defiantly have a fiscal impact.
4. The parole board also gave testimony that the Thompson decision has bearing upon this bill. They did not specify which Thompson decision. There is Thompson v. Clark, Thompson v. Department of Corrections, State v. Thompson. They also testified that there were other cases to be adjudicated. Why rush to pass this bill when there are other cases to be adjudicated? Why the emergency clause? The state of Oregon, Oregon State Parole Board, Oregon District Attorney's Association, and the legislature owes it to the victims of sex crimes to proceed cautiously.

Thank you,

//SIGNED//

LAURIE KIMMELL, Deputy Sheriff, (Ret.)