



Date: May 1, 2025  
To: Co-Chairs Sollman and Ruiz and members of the Joint Subcommittee on Education  
From: Dean Jennifer Reynolds, University of Oregon School of Law  
Re: SB 5525 Higher Education Coordinating Commission – Public Universities

Dear Committee Members:

The Domestic Violence Clinic (Clinic) at the University of Oregon School of Law provides free legal services to low-income community survivors, including student survivors, of domestic and sexual violence and stalking. Many of these survivors have nowhere else to turn for help navigating the complexities of protective orders, family law, benefits, housing, and employment. The Clinic's work reaches communities across Lane County, including rural and underserved regions where legal aid options are limited or nonexistent.

This important work is only possible because of funding from HECC. With HECC's support, the Clinic has been able to train law students through direct, supervised client work, giving students the legal knowledge and practical skills to effectively serve clients. The law students who participate in the Clinic learn not just the relevant law and procedure, but also how to work with survivors of abuse in a trauma-informed way. Many clinic alumni report that their work in the Clinic was one of their most valuable law school experiences.

The continuity of HECC funding allows the law school to serve survivors in Oregon and teach law students to do the same. This dual benefit makes the Clinic a high-impact, cost-effective program.

On behalf of the law school, I thank you for your generous support of our Clinic and respectfully ask for your continued investment. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

With deep appreciation,

Jennifer Reynolds, Dean  
Dave Frohnmayer Chair in Leadership & Law  
University of Oregon School of Law