



February 9, 2026

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

On behalf of the **Center for Hope & Safety** we are submitting testimony in support of HB 4045, Kristil's Law.

Founded in 1973 as the Mid-Valley Women's Crisis Service, the Center for Hope & Safety supports survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, elder abuse and human trafficking. **Last year we had over 10,000 calls to our crisis hotline, and we provided over 17,000 nights of emergency shelter to victims in Marion and Polk Counties.**

We know that the most dangerous time for a survivor of domestic violence is when they leave their abuser. This is when the likelihood of their murder is the highest, because it is one of the most significant losses of power and control by the abuser. **When a victim leaves, this can also be when stalking behaviors begin. Stalking increases the risk of intimate partner homicide by three times.**

Kristil's Law seeks to create greater safety for survivors of stalking and domestic violence, and more immediate accountability for offenders, by requiring communications companies doing business in Oregon to respond to search warrants quickly when the underlying crime involves stalking or any crime constituting domestic violence.

At the Center for Hope & Safety we sit with survivors daily who have been strangled, sexually assaulted, stalked and terrorized by intimate partners who have controlled almost every aspect of their lives. **We know that abusers often have multiple victims over their lifetime, and we believe that this bill will help hold them accountable for their abuse and prevent future homicides.**

Thank you to Rep. Mannix, Rep. Lewis and Rep. Andersen for your support for this bipartisan bill to protect the victims of domestic violence and stalking. It means so much to the people we support and their children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ashley Carson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Ashley Carson, Executive Director
Center for Hope & Safety