

Public Testimony Template in Support of HB 4148 & SB 1562

Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Bruce Jaeger, and I live in Oceanside Oregon in Tillamook County. I am testifying today in strong support of **House Bill 4148** and **Senate Bill 1562**, legislation that strengthens Oregon's response to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and other forms of interpersonal violence.

These bills matter because they address real gaps in Oregon's current system. Survivors often face long wait times, inconsistent access to services, and a lack of culturally specific or rural support options. HB 4148 and SB 1562 take meaningful steps to fix that by:

- **Expanding funding for survivor services**, including emergency shelters, legal advocacy, counseling, and culturally specific programs.
- **Improving coordination between state agencies**, ensuring survivors don't have to navigate a fragmented system while in crisis.
- **Strengthening prevention efforts**, including community-based education and early intervention.
- **Supporting law enforcement and service providers** with better tools, training, and resources to respond effectively and safely.

As someone who is very interested in seeing the reform of TLT funding, I see how urgently Oregon needs these improvements. Survivors deserve timely, trauma-informed support no matter where they live or who they are. These bills help ensure that no one falls through the cracks simply because services are underfunded or unevenly distributed.

HB 4148 and SB 1562 are not abstract policy ideas — they are practical, targeted investments that will save lives, reduce long-term costs to the state, and strengthen Oregon communities.

I urge you to pass these bills and demonstrate Oregon's commitment to safety, dignity, and justice for survivors.

Thank you for your time and for your work on this issue.

Bruce Jaeger

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