



OREGON COALITION OF POLICE & SHERIFFS

March 25, 2015

Representative Jeff Barker
Chair, House Judiciary Committee
Oregon State Capitol, H-480
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 3476 – Support

Representative Barker,

The Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs (ORCOPS) represents over 1700 public safety officers committed to working on policy issues that impact law enforcement officers in Oregon.

We are working to connect Oregonians to the role law enforcement plays in keeping our communities safe. Our goal is to provide a voice for Oregon law enforcement and develop a greater bond between the community and the officers who put their lives on the line every day.

ORCOPS is expressing support for HB 3476 because we see the impact violence has on victims every day. Police and sheriffs deputies are often the first on the scene when people are at their most vulnerable. But even when contacting law enforcement, some are concerned about moving forward with a criminal case for a variety of reasons. Many don't report a crime because they do not want to re-tell their stories, send a loved one to prison, or risk deportation of a friend or family member that harmed them.

Each victim deserves justice. But they also deserve an opportunity to seek counseling or treatment confidentially in order to receive the help they need to heal from the trauma of a crime. ORCOPS supports victims and their need for confidential support from a trained advocate.

Please join us in supporting HB 3476.

Respectfully,

Daryl Turner
President, Oregon Coalition of Police and Sheriffs

Cc: House Judiciary Committee