

Oregon Department of Justice



Oregon Alliance to End Violence Against Women

Ensure Victim Access to Confidential Services

Enact a Victim-Advocate Privilege

Help Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Victims Become Survivors

Support HB 3476

Unanimously supported by your House Judiciary Committee

Victims Need Confidential Support Services:

Confidentiality between a victim and a domestic or sexual violence advocate is critical to effective access to services and options for safety. Victims of these crimes suffer a wide range of emotional and psychological trauma.

- Sharing information without the victim's permission directly threatens a victim's safety, autonomy, and confidence in advocacy services.
- Without assurances of confidentiality, victims:
 - May not seek help from support services;
 - May not disclose true nature of abuse or assault, compromising their safety and undermining effective interventions; and
 - May stay in unsafe situations and suffer more abuse or assault.

The right to privacy is particularly critical for victims in small communities or on college campuses.

A statutory victim-advocate privilege will ensure that victims feel free to access support and advocacy, and can attain safety and stability for themselves and their families without fear of disclosure.

Please Support HB 3476

Ensure Confidential, Survivor-Centered Services

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*From the Desk of
 Senator Suzie Gelzer
 for a while*

**From the Desk of
 Senator Jackie Winters**