

Senate Concurrent Resolution 25

Sponsored by Senators DEMBROW, GELSER; Senators FAGAN, FREDERICK, GOLDEN, KNOPP, Representatives ALONSO LEON, FAHEY, PILUSO

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Declares legislative support for survivors of sexual violence. Pledges to work toward creating an Oregon that is safe for all survivors of sexual violence.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas sexual violence is defined as any type of sexual advance or act without consent, with coerced consent or with someone unable to consent, including rape, sexual assault, child sexual assault, incest, sexual assault by a person's spouse or partner, unwanted sexual contact or touching, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and trafficking; and

Whereas according to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, one in three women and one in six men will experience sexual violence in their lifetime; and

Whereas according to the National Center for Transgender Equality, 47 percent of transgender people experience sexual violence in their lifetime; and

Whereas according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, more than half of all rapes and other sexual assaults are never reported to law enforcement; and

Whereas Oregon has more support organizations than most states but these programs are underfunded and under-supported by the state; and

Whereas the word "survivor" is used because the strength found in the word "survivor" mirrors the strength found in the people who have experienced sexual violence; and

Whereas survivors of sexual assault deserve to have safeguards against injustice and to be treated with dignity; and

Whereas survivors deserve trauma-informed care from emergency room staff and law enforcement representatives; and

Whereas survivors' sexual history should only be discussed when specifically related to a pattern of abuse and should never be weaponized against survivors; and

Whereas survivors deserve paid time off relating to their trauma; and

Whereas survivors deserve protection against discrimination; and

Whereas survivors deserve respect from law enforcement representatives while reporting sexual violence and should not be, as often happens, asked intensely personal questions unrelated to survivors' reported trauma; and

Whereas survivors deserve respect from district attorneys and defense attorneys when recounting their trauma; and

Whereas survivors deserve respect when appearing for court proceedings and should not be, as often happens, treated as though they are on trial as well; and

Whereas survivors deserve respect in school and in the workplace where retaliation regularly

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 happens and is unacceptable; and

2 Whereas survivors deserve to be informed of their rights and to have an advocate or designated
3 support person with them throughout the process of reporting; and

4 Whereas survivors, perpetrators and their communities deserve a chance at restorative justice
5 as a way to heal from the trauma; now, therefore,

6 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

7 That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, support and believe survivors of
8 sexual violence; and be it further

9 Resolved, That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, acknowledge that more
10 needs to be done for survivors of sexual violence; and be it further

11 Resolved, That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, recognize that there is
12 a fundamental societal problem of sexual violence; and be it further

13 Resolved, That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, pledge to work toward
14 creating an Oregon that is safe for all survivors of sexual violence.

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