

RPC 2019-004      A Resolution in Opposition of HB 2859 & SB 744 Which Protect All Harassment Perpetrators

- (A) WHEREAS, The wrongdoing of the Oregon Legislature was publicly exposed when news broke of its pervasive culture of sexual harassment which did not protect women when they were sexually harassed;
- (B) WHEREAS, The wrongdoing was further exposed when BOLI released its findings about the sexual harassment;
- (C) WHEREAS, The Oregon Legislature has worked to contain the public relations damage created by this situation;
- (D) WHEREAS, This situation has created an environment where some are calling for the removal of power of those who were in a position to do something and did not; and
- (E) WHEREAS, Sexual harassment flourishes best when the perpetrators of the behavior are allowed to keep their actions hidden;
- (F) WHEREAS, HB 2859 and SB744 would make the Oregon Legislature unique in that employees of the Legislature who report sexual harassment to a newly created office in the Legislature, specifically The Office of Legislative Equity, and creates legal privilege when a complaint is filed, not only for the victim, but for the perpetrator as well; and
- (G) WHEREAS, HB2859 and SB744 would make complaints filed with the Office of Legislative Equity private as opposed to the current method, reporting to BOLI, which is a matter of public record;

THEREFORE, We the Washington County Democratic Central Committee (WCDCC) of Oregon, Resolve as follows:

1. We call on all State Representatives and Senators representing any part of Washington County to oppose the bill as written and not support any bill which protects the perpetrators of sexual harassment, or any other kind of harassment.

*Resolution submitted by Kyle Martin, R&PC Chair – February 27, 2019*

*Resolution amended and recommended as Do Pass by R&PC – March 5, 2019*