KATE BROWN
Governor

August 12, 2015

The Honorable Jeanne P. Atkins
Secretary of State
136 State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97310

Dear Secretary Atkins:

Today, I am signing House Bill 2320 which accomplishes many goals, including adjusting some of the mandates and language from HB 2549 (2013), eliminating "risk assessment tools" in favor of "risk assessment methodologies," authorizing the Psychiatric Security Review Board and the Oregon Health Authority to conduct risk assessments. It also eliminates the "predatory sex offender" designation for juveniles, and changes the presumption that a juvenile who has been adjudicated for an offense, that if committed by an adult would be a felony sex crime, will automatically be ordered to register as a sex offender. Now, each juvenile will have a hearing within 6 months of completing supervision, and, at that hearing, a fully-informed judge will decide whether registration is warranted.

An unintended consequence of the re-drafting of the law regarding the registration of, and reporting by, juvenile sex offenders has been brought to my attention. HB 2320 fails to address the duty to register by those juveniles *currently* required to register (due to a previous adjudication for a qualifying offense). This issue was brought to my attention by two groups normally positioned as adversaries—advocates for youth and prosecutors. Both groups put forth substantial effort in the drafting of this bill. It is my expectation that these stakeholders will work with members of the legislature to rectify this inconsistency, with all due haste, during the 2016 Oregon Legislative Session.

Sincerely,

Kate Brown

Governor Kate Brown

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