

LAURIE MONNES ANDERSON
State Senator



STATE SENATE
DISTRICT 25

SB 525

Domestic Violence Public Safety Bill
June 1, 2015

Good afternoon Chair and members of the committee. I am State Senator, Laurie Monnes Anderson, from Gresham, Troutdale, Fairview, Wood Village, and a little bit of East Portland.

Thank you for hearing SB 525 which makes it illegal to possess a firearm or ammunition in certain conditions and mirrors the federal law. I want to thank the Republican office, in particular Steve Elzinaga, and the President's office, in particular Anna Braun who did a lot of work to craft this bipartisan product.

In 2014, 42 Oregonians died as a result of domestic violence offenders. About 60% of those deaths were by firearms. Federal law prohibits the possession of firearms by domestic violence offenders, but because this law is not codified in Oregon, our system cannot enforce the law and victims do not have protection.

We had compelling testimony from the victim advocates and children advocates, law enforcement, and district attorneys from five different counties (Lincoln, Benton, Multnomah, Malheur and Marion). We also heard from the Attorney General's office, from judges (circuit court and probate court), city councilors, and the medical community (a physician and a psychologist).

This legislation is clearly needed in Oregon and I urge you to pass this to the floor of the Senate. Thank you.

