

Carla C. Piluso State Representative, House District 50 900 Court St. NE, H-491, Salem, OR 97301 503-986-1450 rep.carlapiluso@oregonlegislature.gov

March 12, 2019

*To*: House Judiciary Committee *RE*: HB 2866

Chair Williamson and members of the committee:

For the record, my name is Carla Piluso, and I proudly represent House District 50, the great city of Gresham.

I am here today in support of House Bill 2866, which provides transparency and privacy protections for the information about us that is generated when we use our phones, computers, and other devices. This information includes:

- The personal information that Facebook, Instagram, and other social media sites collect about us when we use their applications.
- Audio recordings collected by digital devices like Alexa.
- The location information collected by apps on our cell phones, such as Google Maps, Pokemon Go!, and Yelp.
- Audio and video collected by applications on our cell phones and laptops, like Instagram, Snapchat, and Skype.

The next panel will be able to answer your questions and provide more information about what the bill does and doesn't do. I am here to speak in support of HB 2866 as former Chief of Police and an advocate for survivors of domestic violence.

In this age of advanced technology, increased data collection, and increased data sharing, it has become more difficult than ever for survivors to control where their personal information goes.

For many victims of violence or stalking, privacy has a direct connection to their safety. If they can't be sure that they can maintain privacy, some survivors choose not to ask for help or seek out services.

A national study conducted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence found that 72 percent of victim services programs across the country have seen victims who were tracked through a stalking app installed on a mobile phone or a stand-alone GPS device.<sup>1</sup>

A recent report by Motherboard found that cell phone carriers "are selling access to their customers' location data, and that data is ending up in the hands of bounty hunters and others not authorized to possess it, letting them track most phones in the country." This is a significant risk for survivors who can be tracked down by an unauthorized person like a private investigator at the request of a client who is a stalker or an abuser.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/06-04-14SouthworthTestimony.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>https://motherboard.vice.com/en\_us/article/nepxbz/i-gave-a-bounty-hunter-300-dollars-located-phone-microbilt-zumigo-tmobile</u>

Weak consumer privacy protections impact all of us—but they can become particularly dangerous for survivors. Strengthening consumer protections strengthens protections for survivors.

At a minimum, survivors should know what information is being collected and who will have access to that information. They should have the information they need to make the best and safest decisions for themselves. I urge you to support HB 2866.

Sincerely,

ala,

Carla C. Piluso Oregon State Representative, House District 50