

**Written Testimony of Paul Kemp for the House Committee on Judiciary**

Thank you Chairman Williamson and the members of the Committee, for holding this important hearing on HB2013.

My name is Paul Kemp. I've been an Oregon resident since 1985. I am a gun owner and have both handguns and rifles. I am also a founding board member of Gun Owners for Responsible Ownership, or GOFRO. No one in our family has been the victim of domestic involving a firearm. However, our family has been affected by gun violence here in Oregon. Over the last six plus years as I've advocated to improve gun safety laws here in Oregon, I've come to know several families who have been affected by gun violence during domestic abuse events.

Domestic violence involving firearms makes it **5 times** more likely that a woman will be killed. A large portion (54%) of the mass shootings in the USA are related to domestic violence. Here in Oregon 62 percent of the intimate partner homicide victims died by gun violence in the four year period of 2011 to 2015. This data is from the Oregon Violent Death Reporting System.

Missing from current Oregon law is the requirement that convicted domestic abusers and stalkers turn in the guns they already own. Current Oregon law would fail a gun buyer's background check for those convicted of serious domestic violence misdemeanors and stalking or those subject to a final order of protection, but it does not require them to turn in guns they already own immediately. By passing HB 2013 Oregon joins several other states to protect women and children from being further gun violence

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victims of domestic abuse. The state needs to protect these vulnerable populations from further gun violence, by disarming gun owners from further threatening, injuring or murdering intimate partners. There is an option for those subject to turning in their firearms to do so through a federally licensed gun dealer. By selling their guns to a federally licensed gun dealer the gun owner is compensated for the firearm(s) they purchased. Passage of HB 2013 affects only those who acquired guns illegally or are already prohibited by law from having guns.

Passage of HB 2013 is a legal process to keep intimate partners safe and free from gun violence.