

To Chair Williamson, Vice Chairs Gorsek and Sprenger, and Members of the Committee.

I am a supporter of sexual assault survivors and resident of Oregon and I would like to write in my testimony of support for SB 995.

I have personally witnessed and supported my partner as she dealt with the process of renewing a SAPO and seen the difficulties that arise. Her assaulter was able to dodge getting served, and thus the SAPO lapsed. My partner could not feel safe going to public events, the kind of events that the assaulter could easily show up at. This bill would fix the law and relieve much of the burden from the survivors of sexual assault. It would allow her and other victims to feel safe going out in public and being part of their communities.

- Why is this Bill Important:

> Having sexual assault survivors go back to court to renew their restraining orders annually is traumatic. This restraining order needs to be extended.

> Protecting vulnerable people, children, survivors of repeat sexual assault offenders, survivors of sexual assault by family is important and their protection deserves to be permanent.

> Seeking out one's sexual assaulter when they are intentionally evading being served is extremely traumatic for the sexual assault survivors.

- What does it remedy:

> It prevents the responsibility of keeping themselves safe fall on the sexual assault survivors.

> It protects the most vulnerable in the community, especially those who have jobs that do not allow them to take days off to go to court to keep having to renew it annually.

> It prevents a SAPO from being considered null if the sexual assault survivor cannot get their assaulter served even after due diligence of trying to get them served.

- My position on this Bill is that I support it and I would like it to get passed.

- I support SB995.

Sincerely,

Finley Moorefield