

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

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

This bill is important because 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.

This bill 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,

Linnea Alexander
She/her/hers