



May 17, 2021

Dear Chair Bynum, Vice Chairs Noble and Power, and Members of the Committee,

***My name is BB Beltran and I am the Executive Director of Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS) and I strongly urge your support of SB 766 which provides a technical fix to the Sexual Abuse Protective Order (SAPO) statute.*** SASS is a non-profit organization providing outreach, advocacy and support to survivors of sexual violence and their partners, families and friends throughout Eugene-Springfield and the rest of Lane County. SASS advocates listen, believe, support, accompany, offer information and referrals, and provide peer counseling to survivors of sexual violence, past and present. We maintain a 24-hour crisis and support line and provide 24-hour emergency advocacy for survivors of sexual assault and sexual abuse.

***SB 766 will make two critical technical fixes to the SAPO statute which would ensure survivors of sexual assault/abuse have the privacy and safety they rightly deserve.***

- ***SB 766 modifies the expiration date of the SAPO for orders entered when the petitioner was a minor.*** Under current law, SAPOs expire when the minor petitioner turns 19 and requires that the minor petitioner's date of birth be listed in the paperwork. Clearly, this creates unnecessary privacy and safety concerns for survivors which is the opposite intent of a SAPO and the protections it affords petitioners. *SB 766 would ameliorate the risk of having a minor's personally identifying information exposed in SAPO paperwork by providing that orders expire on January 1 in the year after the minor's 19th birthday.*
- ***SB 766 also modifies procedures when service on respondent of SAPO is completed by alternate service.*** Currently, the law provides that in certain circumstances, if the sheriff is unable to personally serve the Respondent, the court may order alternative service pursuant to ORCP (7)(d)(6). If the court orders service by posting, the SAPO petition in its entirety must be included in the posting. This poses significant privacy and safety concerns for survivors by releasing information related to the survivor's assault history and other personal and private information. *SB 766 will remedy this by providing that a court may order the use of a summons to serve a respondent when appropriate.*

***The Oregon legislature's action in supporting SB 766 is critical to ensure survivors of sexual assault and abuse have access to legal remedies which do not expose them to further victimization by comprising their safety or privacy.*** SAPOs are a powerful tool for survivors in achieving safety and autonomy in the aftermath of a traumatic experience involving sexual violence. However, under current Oregon law there are gaps in the SAPO statute. *SB 766 would close the gaps and ensure SAPOs provide the relief they were intended for and protect the privacy and safety of all survivors of sexual assault and abuse.* Thank you for your work on behalf of all Oregonians.

Sincerely,  
BB Beltran  
Executive Director