

Submitter: Asianique Savage

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1015

I am here as a member in my community that have been dramatically affected by gun violence:

Myself has experienced gun violence from the loss of my mother and 20 years later the loss of my younger brother

I am a product of Community Violence Intervention. This term may be newer, but what it is: intervening before violence occurs or working to support those who've been affected to keep them out of the cycle of violence - has been around, unfunded. CVI was used to create wrap-around services in order for me to thrive in my community and society.

But there is not nearly enough funding, nor has there ever been, meaning most individuals who are impacted by gun violence aren't getting the support they need. Funding CVI does not only help those who are front line workers continue the work but also helps those who are directly impacted and indirectly - such as family members - not fall through the cracks.

We often hear about numbers of those impacted in Oregon especially in Portland & Salem.

We cant underestimate the severe levels of daily harm individuals and families are experiencing & how those experiences negatively impact entire communities especially those of color which are historically smaller in Oregon and thus when a loss is felt entire communities are left to grieve without the proper resources

In the past 2 years we've begun to create systems to support community violence intervention but we are only in the beginning stages . it is going to take proper implementation and sustained funding to truly make a long term impact so in 10 years we will not be back in the same cycle with gun violence & fire arm tragedies

I urge our state representatives to truly consider community violence intervention as a direct link to community safety in Oregon. We must fully fund CVI and I hope you all families will never have to experience what my family has in order for you all to truly care about gun violence prevention.

Thank You