



KATHLEEN TAYLOR
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 41
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 2776

March 25, 2015

Chair Barker and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am Kathleen Taylor, State Representative for District 41, which encompasses Milwaukie, Oak Grove and portions of Southeast Portland. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today about HB 2776, which establishes temporary, emergency protective orders for victims of domestic violence. Thank you, too, to Representative Julie Parrish for her work on this issue.

Every legislator received yesterday via email the report from the Oregon Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team and their recommendations. First on the list of recommendations to improve the safety provided by restraining orders is enacting an emergency protection order law, like the one we are dealing with today. It provides law enforcement with the capacity to seek an immediate, temporary no-contact order from a judge on a 24 hour basis.

We had a group of technical experts help craft the -1 amendment. Law enforcement helped make sure the mechanics of this process would work statewide. We also had input from domestic violence prevention advocates and defense attorneys. I'll let the experts speak specifically to the provisions of the bill shortly.

I just want to highlight a few shocking statistics:

Nine percent (about 78,000) of Oregon women reported being physical assaulted by an intimate partner in the past five years.

During JUST ONE DAY in Sept of 2013, 1,187 victims were served by local domestic violence programs in Oregon.

In 2013, Oregon had 24 fatal domestic violence incidents; in 2014, that number was 28.

Domestic violence has tragic results. And just to be clear... It's not only the persons involved in the altercations that are at risk. Children, other family members and law officers are endangered. Let's all remember Officer Robert Libke who was fatally shot in November of 2013 while responding to domestic violence incident.

HB 2776 is just one small, but necessary, tool to help better protect the victims of domestic violence. It has the support of both the domestic violence and law enforcement communities. I urge your support of HB 2776.