

**LAURIE MONNES ANDERSON**  
State Senator



**STATE SENATE**  
**DISTRICT 25**

**SB 525**  
**Domestic Violence Public Safety Bill**  
**May 12, 2015**

Good afternoon Chair and members of the committee. I am State Senator, Laurie Monnes Anderson, from Gresham, Troutdale, Fairview, Wood Village, and a little bit of East Portland.

Thank you for hearing SB 525 which makes it illegal to possess a firearm or ammunition in certain conditions. You also have the -4 amendments that basically take the federal law, which is more limited than Oregon law, and put it into Oregon's statutes. I want to thank the Republican office, in particular Steve Elzinaga, and the President's office, in particular Anna Braun who did a lot of work to craft the -4 amendment. And I want to thank Sybil Hebb that helped me understand the attorney jargon.

In 2014, 42 Oregonians died as a result of domestic violence offenders. About 60% of those deaths were by firearms. Federal law prohibits the possession of firearms by domestic violence offenders, but because this law is not codified in Oregon, our system cannot enforce the law and victims do not have protection.

We had a great hearing on March 25<sup>th</sup> and I wish you could have been there to hear the compelling testimony from the victim advocates and children advocates, law enforcement, and district attorneys from five different counties (Lincoln, Benton, Multnomah, Malheur and Marion). We also heard from the Attorney General's office, from judges (circuit court and probate court), city councilors, and the medical community (a physician and a psychologist).

This legislation is clearly needed in Oregon and I urge you to pass this to the floor of the Senate. Thank you.

