



To: Members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Kevin Campbell, Executive Director
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

Date: May 19, 2015

Re: Testimony in Favor of SB 3 A

Chair Barker and members of the House Judiciary Committee, my name is Kevin Campbell and I am the Executive Director of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police. I am here today on behalf of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police to urge your support of SB 3 A.

SB 3 A would create the crime of endangering a person protected by a Family Abuse Prevention Act (FAPA) restraining order. The measure provides that violation of a restraining order constitutes a Class A misdemeanor if the person was previously convicted of violating an order at the time of second offense. Further, the bill provides that the violation constitutes a Class C felony if the offender places a protected party at substantial risk of serious physical injury while violating the restraining order at any time.

Restraining order violations represent one of the most dangerous events for victims and police officers. Potential lethality and additional physical/emotional abuse is a real danger to victims. The fact that a batterer would ignore the restraining order and contact the victim demonstrates the power and control issues that are a part of domestic violence cases. Repeated violations of restraining orders should be a crime, as is intentionally placing a victim in fear of serious physical injury. SB 3 A gives police officers additional tools to protect victims from their batterers.