

April 14, 2017

Alice Newlin

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Dear Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my support for SB 868 and SB 797. SB 868 is necessary to protect the vulnerable in our community from gun violence, including the risk of suicide by firearm. People in crisis need help and support, but families and caregivers are often left without ways to remove access to firearms from people who are at extreme risk of harming themselves or others. The protections orders contemplated by this bill would reduce the rate of gun deaths in Oregon, 83% of which are from suicide.

SB 797 will also help prevent violence, including domestic and intimate partner violence, which is much more likely to be deadly when a gun is involved. The loophole that allows for guns to be sold when a criminal background check has not been completed puts women, children, and our entire community at risk. We can all agree that criminals, abusers and stalkers should not be able to purchase firearms. This bill will give law enforcement the tools it needs to share information, complete necessary background checks, and prevent gun sales to criminals.

Your votes could save countless lives.

Thank you,

Alice Newlin