



Testimony in support of SB 868

Extreme risk protection order prohibiting firearms possession

April 17, 2017

Dear Chair Prozanski and Members of Senate Judiciary Committee,

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP), I would like to express our support for SB 868, to create a process for obtaining extreme risk protection orders to prohibit persons from possessing firearms when a court finds them to be at imminent risk, or risk in the foreseeable future, of suicide or causing injury to other persons.

This is a way to curb the high rate of suicide in Oregon as suicide by firearms represents a significant portion of completed suicides, especially among males and active duty military/veterans. Removal of firearms prevents tragic consequences by eliminating one of the most lethal means for suicide or homicide from a person, who because of the factors listed in Section 2 (4), may act impulsively in a moment of deep despair or conflict with family members and friends.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 868.

Sincerely,

Cherryl L. Ramirez

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Director, AOCMHP