

**From:** Robin Flamm  
**To:** [SJUD Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony SB 797  
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My name is Robin Flamm. I am a mother of two from Portland, and a member of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America.

I am here today to show my support for Senate Bill 797, which contains safety measures that will help protect Oregonians from gun violence and potentially save lives.

These measures will do four things:

- Prohibit abusive dating partners from having guns.
- Prohibit convicted stalkers from buying or possessing guns.
- Require state officials to alert law enforcement when someone tries to buy a gun illegally, so that law enforcement may be able to stop a dangerous person from obtaining a gun by some other means.
- Prevent a gun sale from proceeding before a background check has been completed.

It's incomprehensible to me that such common sense measures aren't already in place.

In 2014, an acquaintance of mine was shot and killed by her ex-husband in front of their two young daughters, who went to school with my children. Later that day, he shot and killed himself as well.

He faced restraining and stalking orders before he killed her. She knew he was an immediate danger and was in possession of firearms, which he handled even in the presence of his children. She took all the security measures that she could to protect herself and her girls. Additional security measures were even added to our school, and Portland Police were aware of the danger he posed. Yet none of this awareness was enough to restrict this dangerous man's access to firearms.

My son, who was 9 at the time of the murder/suicide, was very worried about his two schoolmates, who were only 7 and 8 and had just become orphans. As I assured him that they were well-loved and would be taken care of by relatives, I crumbled inside at how unfair it was. I had often witnessed how loving and kind their mother was. I feel devastated that she was taken away from them, from someone who should have and could have been denied the means to do so.

A serious problem exists. American women are 16 times more likely to be killed with a gun than women in other high-income countries. In an average month, 50 women are shot to death by a current or former partner in the United States.

By supporting SB 797, the Oregon Legislature can take big steps towards addressing this heartbreaking problem.

Please vote yes on Senate Bill 797.