



---

## Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force

---

**Testimony in Opposition to SB 652**  
**Senate Committee on Human Services**  
**Submitted by: Michele Roland-Schwartz, Executive Director**

**February 21, 2017**

Chair Gelser and members of the Senate Committee on Human Services:

On behalf of the Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force **I submit this written testimony in opposition to SB 652** which would establish an automatic restraining order against a petitioner in a Family Abuse Prevention Act (FAPA) proceeding.

The Sexual Assault Task Force is a private, non-profit, non-governmental statewide agency with over 100 multi-disciplinary members who serve as advisors on 1 of 8 subcommittees including: Campus, Criminal Justice, Legislative & Public Policy, Medical-Forensic, Men's Engagement, Offender Management, Prevention Education, and Victim Response. Our mission is to facilitate and support a collaborative, survivor-centered approach to the prevention of and response to sexual violence.

SATF is unwavering in our commitment to ensure that victims have access to safety and comprehensive services that meet their needs after traumatic incidents of abuse and violence occur. We believe the Family Abuse Prevention Act (FAPA) restraining order, which is a civil order meant to provide victims protection from harm by a family or household member, is an important mechanism for victims to access safety and provide protection from an abusive relationship, whereby women and children in Oregon are disproportionately impacted<sup>1</sup>. Passage of SB 652 would unfairly sanction victims seeking protection under the law and may unnecessarily prevent victims from seeking a FAPA as a civil remedy. For this reason, we urge a no vote on SB 652.

Respectfully submitted,



Michele Roland-Schwartz  
Executive Director

---

<sup>1</sup>One in five Oregon women and girls will experience rape or sexual violence in their lifetime; At least one in four Oregon women and girls will experience domestic violence in their lifetime.