

Dear Chair Barker, Vice Chair Olson, Vice Chair Williamson and members of the House Committee on Judiciary.

As a person who has experienced strangulation, and a domestic and sexual violence advocate, I *strongly* urge you to pass SB 1562 A. Strangulation is a high predictor of lethal force in a relationship, and is a choice made by partners willing to use extreme violence against the people they claim to love. If we are serious about protecting families here in Oregon we need common sense legislative change like this.

Abusers who are willing to strangle their partners show a complete lack of concern for the wellbeing of others. Strangulation can have serious, unseen medical complications. We also know that strangulation or depriving someone of oxygen can be done in different ways by abusers. This bill helps to expand the definition to include the reality of what survivors are actually experiencing. Abusers who strangle are in deep need of help and accountability if we are to prevent deaths of our fellow Oregonians.

Please help us in passing this bill. It has support from advocates, law enforcement, District Attorney's, your fellow colleagues, and your constituents.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Maggie Gilman Holm  
Clackamas County Resident

Take care,

Maggie Gilman Holm

Camp HOPE Coordinator | **Pronouns:** She/Her/Hers  
**A Safe Place Family Justice Center**  
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