

To Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee on Senate Judiciary

I am a sexual assault survivor. I am also giving verbal testimony on 3/27 at the capitol for SB482.

I am a resident of Oregon and supporter of sexual assault survivors. I am a huge advocate of consent.

My Personal Experience:

- I was sexually assaulted 2 years ago, and that was when I looked at my options and decided to file for a Sexual Assault Protection Order (SAPO) as it was the only restraining order available for me in the event of a sexual assault and the assaulter not being family.
- My assaulter requested a hearing and we went into a multi month long court exchange with the final verdict being that my SAPO was still retained.
- But after the long court exchange, within 6 months, I had to start the process of renewing my SAPO.
- I renewed it knowing that there was a good chance my assaulter would try to contest the SAPO in court. I renewed it knowing that I could yet again enter another multi-month long court exchange. I renewed it knowing that since this SAPO required renewal annually, that this multi-month long court exchange could be an annual thing for the rest of my life.
- However, things took a turn, I could not even get my assaulter served the SAPO last year.
- I hired 2 professional server, 1 private investigator and got the Sherriff involved, no one successfully served him. I later found out that he was living in his car, fully mobile, and hard to locate.
- Because of this, my SAPO is null - I am not protected by it as a restraining order. My assaulter can still reach me.
- Because of the 180 day from assault limitation, I cannot file for a new SAPO.
- I cannot protect myself against my assaulter despite going through a multi-month long process in court to defend my need for a restraining order and despite hiring all the help to try to get him served.
- I am now left vulnerable to my assaulter because of the flaw in the system.
- I want to make it known that the SAPO really did protect me and it was such a helpful tool to keep me safe. But I think it can refined.
- I also want to acknowledge my privilege of being able to afford a lawyer, get days off work to go court, hire 2 professional server and 1 private investigator. And even despite it all, I still remain unprotected today. Which leads me to emphasize why this bill 482 is so important, it protects all of us. But especially the most vulnerable. People who are single parents, people who work at jobs that would fire them if they took enough days

off to deal with multi-month long court proceedings, people with PTSD, people with no health insurance. I want you know that yes, my SAPO is over, but you can make a difference in making sexual assault survivors lives so much better.

- The trauma that came with renewing my SAPO was very high.
- The trauma that came with SEEKING OUT my assaulter to get them served (unsuccessfully) was EXTREMELY HIGH.
- The burden of having me be responsible to keep myself safe annually was so high and so traumatic.
- During the time I had to keep going to court and attempting to renew my SAPO, I ended up seeing a therapist due to all the trauma, took time off work, STOPPED all my community involvement in racial justice that I work on, it affected my relationships.
- I hope you will consider passing this Bill because I know it will dramatically improve the lives of thousands of people to come.

- **My position on this Bill is that I support it and I would like it to get passed.**
- **I support [SB 482](#) along with it's "-2" amendment.**

Thank you Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee on Senate Judiciary

Elina Lim