

## HB 2013 Testimony

Chair Williamson, Vice Chairs Sprenger and Gorsek, and members of the House Judiciary Committee, my name is Elaine Woods, I live in Beaverton, and I am submitting testimony in opposition to HB 2013 as it is written.

No one wants anyone to be a victim of domestic violence, or any other form of violence or intimidation. I would like to suggest that a simpler solution is not only possible, but better than this piece of legislation.

I once heard a woman speak who was a victim of domestic violence. She sought her own form of self-protection, as she knew that if police were called to rescue her, they could not arrive in time to protect her. Since she did not want to remain being a victim, she found a training facility and sought their advice on getting a Concealed Handgun License, scheduled training, and purchased a handgun to use for this training. As a result she became more confident by developing her skill in shooting and ability to protect herself. Until I heard her speak about this issue I would never have believed this confident woman was once a frightened victim.

I realize that the trauma of victimized women is significant and by all means they need counseling to overcome their pain and fear, and heal emotionally, mentally and psychologically. But they also need to be empowered to not remain a victim in their life. Not only will these women develop skills to enable them to protect themselves, they will find other women to connect with who will support them and encourage them. New friendships will form as they enjoy developing their skills together through the many activities available for women shooters.

This is truly a women's rights issue. HB 2013 is not a good solution. I ask you to please vote NO on HB 2013.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this issue.

Elaine Woods

Member of the Tri-County Gun Club and its Ladies League

Member of The Well Armed Woman, and A Girl & A Gun organizations