

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and members of the committee,

This letter is in support of HB 3117A, which would ensure implementation of the purpose of Oregon's Family Abuse Protection Act.

My name is Diana Gutman, I am an Oregon state resident and reside in the city of Portland. I'm a disabled OIF combat Veteran who proudly served our Country. I'm very involved in my community and attend the weekly Portland City Council meetings.

Oregon's Family Abuse Protection Act is one of the most important forms of relief for survivors and their children. Leaving a violent relationship is an extremely dangerous time for a survivor – a protection order can be an essential part of a safety plan for Citizens in the state of Oregon.

If a protection order does its job – provides protection – that should not be cause for dismissal of the order. The order should not be dismissed simply because the imminent danger is resolved by the order or by other safety planning.

HB 3117A makes a reasonable change to current law to ensure that a victim of domestic violence who takes steps to protect themselves doesn't lose that protection if there was no abuse after obtaining a temporary order. Please support HB 3117A to ensure that victims have access to the safety they need for themselves and their children.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony and for all of the work that's being done on behalf of the Citizens in the state of Oregon.

Sincerely,
Diana Gutman