

Chair Williamson, Vice Chairs Gorsek and Sprenger, and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of Oregon and a sexual assault survivor. I am writing with my emphatic support of SB 995.

This issue is one to which I am personally connected as a sexual assault survivor. I was able to file for protection because I waited until after the current deadline. This was because I was living with my assaulter and was afraid that filing while he was still under my roof would make my children and I more vulnerable. By the time he was out, it was too late to file, but the threats continued.

These bullet points have been provided as an example, but I have read each and every one of them and agree completely that these are the reasons this bill needs to pass into law.

Why is this Bill Important :

Having sexual assault survivors go back to court to renew their restraining orders annually is traumatic. This restraining order needs to be extended.

Protecting vulnerable people, children, survivors of repeat sexual assault offenders, survivors of sexual assault by family is important and their protection deserves to be permanent.

Seeking out one's sexual assaulter when they are intentionally evading being served is extremely traumatic for the sexual assault survivor.

What does it remedy:

It prevents the responsibility of keeping themselves safe from falling on the sexual assault survivors.

It protects the most vulnerable in the community, especially those who have jobs that do not allow them to take days off to go to court.

It prevents a SAPO from being considered null if the sexual assault survivor cannot get their assaulter served even after due diligence of trying to get them served.

My position on this Bill is that I support it and I would like it to get passed.

I support [SB995](#) (previously SB482)

Best,
Jennifer Michaud