

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

I am an Oregon resident and partner to a survivor of sexual assault whom was not adequately protected by the current SAPO process, and I would like to write in my testimony of support for SB 995.

**- Why is this Bill Important ( using the above Bill update recommendations ):**

- > Oregon is one of only two states with such a short window to apply for this type of protection. Oregon should protect assault victims at least as well as 48 other states.
- > 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 survivors. This can not be overstated. The survivor is currently tasked with the responsibility of finding the one person on Earth they are trying to never see again.

**- What does it remedy:**

- > It prevents the responsibility of keeping themselves safe fall 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 to keep having to renew it annually and children whose safety should be protected for them until they are old enough to inherit the responsibility.
- > 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.**

[Link to SB995](https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2019R1/Measures/Overview/SB995) ( previously SB482 ):

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Sincerely,

--Orvis