

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

I am a sexual assault survivor, sex educator, and a survivor advocate, and I would like to write in my testimony of support for SB995.

Having sexual assault survivors go back to court to renew their restraining orders annually is traumatic, and seeking out one's sexual assaulter when they are intentionally evading being served is also extremely traumatic for the sexual assault survivors.

This restraining order needs to be extended. We need to protect vulnerable people, children, survivors of repeat sexual assault offenders, and survivors of sexual assault by family. Their protection deserves to be permanent.

SB995 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. It also 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).

Sincerely,

Ev'Yan Whitney • she/her

Sexuality Doula™ + Sex Educator

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