



Oregon Alliance to End Violence Against Women

Please Support SB 816A

The above entities respectfully request support for Senate Bill 816A to increase safety for survivors of domestic violence. This bipartisan bill comes to you with unanimous support from the Senate and from your House Judiciary Committee, and there is no known opposition.

The language of Senate Bill 816A was developed in collaboration with survivor advocates and public safety partners and extends the length of a Family Abuse Prevention Act (FAPA) protection order from a period of one year from the date of issuance to a period of two years, increasing the term of safety for domestic violence survivors. The bill makes no other changes to the law.

SB 816A will increase safety for survivors: Well-supported data shows that violence increases upon separation and remains heightened for the two-year period after separation:

- The period of time after separation from an abusive partner is the most dangerous time for a victim of domestic violence.¹
- There is a 75 percent increase of violence in the two year period after separation.²
- The reason for this increase in violence upon or after separation is because the abuser (perpetrator of DV) is losing control or power in the relationship.
- In one study of domestic violence fatalities by the CDC and National Institute of Justice, efforts by the victim to separate were the most common precipitating factor prior to the murder.
- According to the Center for Relationship Abuse Awareness, 77 percent of homicides related to domestic violence occur after separation.

Extending the duration of the FAPA protection order to two years will keep important protections in place during the time of greatest danger, allowing the victim a better chance to establish safety and security before protections lapse. For these reasons, we respectfully urge your Aye vote.

From the Desk of
Representative Courtney Neron

Contact: shebb@oregonlawcenter.org

¹ See also: <https://www.dolanzimmerman.com/domestic-violence-statistics/> and <https://medium.com/the-virago/leaving-an-abusive-relationships-is-not-a-matter-of-courage-4997b78632b5>

² See also: *Id.*