

Submitter: Megan Shultz

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Measure: SB5506

My name is Megan Shultz and I live in Eugene, Oregon.

I urge you to renew Oregon's \$15 million Community Violence Intervention fund, administered by DOJ's Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division, in the budget.

Last year, Oregon appropriated \$15 million to these services for the very first time, and we know there is already more demand than funding available. Funding is set to expire in 2024. If we want to reduce gun violence over the long term, we can't make a one-time investment; we have to make a sustained commitment to strategies we know work to reduce violence.

Grants support evidence-informed programs across the state of Oregon that address many different types of gun violence, from street-based outreach to reduce homicides in Multnomah County to veteran suicide prevention programs in Eastern and Southern Oregon.

I believe it takes individuals, communities, public agencies, service providers, educators, private funders, city, county, state and federal dollars all working together to ensure our communities, our families, our communities and our state is safe from gun violence. We need to address this on all levels and from every angle.

Please continue supporting the work to help make our communities

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Megan Shultz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Megan Shultz  
Eugene, Oregon