



# Oregon Pediatric Society

A Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Incorporated in Oregon

DATE: April 7, 2025

TO: Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallan,  
and members of the House Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Julie Scholz, MBA, Executive Director of the Oregon Pediatric Society

SUBJECT: Support for House Bill 3074: Strengthen ERPOs

My name is Julie Scholz, and I am writing on behalf of the Oregon Pediatric Society (OPS). We give our strong support to HB 3074, which strengthens Oregon's existing Extreme Risk Protection Order laws, one of the best tools available to law enforcement and family members for preventing gun suicide deaths and injuries and firearm violence.

Too often the stories that are told after gun violence incidents is that there were clear warnings. Timely, temporary interventions are proven to increase preventing potential harm before it occurs. Family members and law enforcement are usually the first people to see these signs. With too many domestic violence tragedies, restraining orders weren't enough protection. Firearms are an extremely lethal means of suicide, and ERPOs have been found to reduce firearm suicides by 7 – 15%.

In order for these orders serve as a preventive measure, we need to confirm that ERPOs are working as intended. According to Everytown for Gun Safety, in 2023 there were 186 ERPOs filed in Oregon – a rate of 4.4 petitions per 100,000 people. (Florida had an ERPO rate of 16.5). HB 3074 will require a process to verify firearms have been removed after an ERPO is issued by a civil court, and will improve law enforcement training about how to use ERPOs. The bill will also increase who can file an ERPO, adding ex-partners and those with shared custody of a child.

Currently 21 states and the District of Columbia have ERPO laws. ERPOs save lives. Our state legislature has the ability to make Oregon one of the strongest states in the country for laws that would reduce gun violence, deaths by firearms, and family heartbreak. OPS urges our Oregon legislators to vote yes for HB 3074 and other gun tragedy prevention bills this session. Medical providers save lives every day; now it's your turn.

Thank you for your consideration.