



PRESS RELEASE

OREGON HOUSE DEMOCRATS

For Immediate Release
July 6, 2017

For More Information, Contact:
Scott Moore: 503-986-1904

House Votes to Reduce Gun Violence and Suicides

SB 719 creates Extreme Risk Protective Orders to limit access to guns by people in distress

SALEM – [Senate Bill 719](#), which passed today by the Oregon House of Representatives, will keep deadly weapons out of the hands of Oregonians at risk of doing harm to themselves or others.

The legislation creates an Extreme Risk Protection Order for law enforcement and family members to petition the court to remove deadly weapons, including firearms, when an individual demonstrates distress. It passed 31-28.

House Majority Leader Jennifer Williamson (D-NW & SW Portland), a longtime champion of gun violence prevention, carried the legislation in the Oregon House.

“I believe this legislation strikes an important balance between ensuring individuals are able to maintain their rights under the Constitution and keep those who seek to harm themselves or others from obtaining the thing that will allow them to do that easily,” Rep. Williamson said. “Too many Oregonians die as the result of suicide by a firearm. This legislation is another tool for families and law enforcement to use in saving lives.”

SB 719, which is similar to a law in Washington, would allow family and law enforcement officials to petition a court for an ERPO. The petitioner would have to provide clear and convincing evidence under oath, showing that an individual poses a risk to themselves or others. Once an order has been issued, the individual would have to surrender any deadly weapons they have within 24 hours. The individual has 30 days to request a hearing to rescind the order.

Filing an order under false pretenses is a Class A misdemeanor.

Senate Bill 719 now goes to Gov. Kate Brown for her signature.

###