



May 31, 2017

The Honorable Tina Kotek
Speaker of The House
900 Court St. NE, Rm. 269
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: SB 719 A (Sen. Judiciary Committee) – Secret Gun Confiscation Hearings
POSITION: OPPOSE
LOCATION: House Rules Committee

Dear Speaker Kotek,

We at FPC ask that you reject the multi-million-dollar boondoggle that is SB 719 A; a measure that would create a process for secretly obtaining "extreme risk protection orders" (ERPO). These orders will lead to the confiscation of firearms from unaware Oregonians who are not allowed to confront their accusers nor avail themselves of the protected right of due process.

- SB 719 offers no assessment, evaluation, counseling, follow-up, intervention, nor treatment for the subject of an "ERPO"—implying the subject is not actually an "extreme risk."
- SB 719 denies the subject of an order the right to confront their accuser, the right to counsel, nor right to trial by jury, as these orders are issued in secret.
- SB 719 requires law enforcement to store entire gun collections, potentially indefinitely.
- SB 719 denies the subject any notification that a hearing is taking place.
- SB 719 allows for potential hearsay "evidence" to include most any transgression, going back years, and even decades, including a DUI.
- SB 719 claims "evidence" of risk to include the mere lawful purchase of a firearm.
- The Legislative Fiscal Office [estimates](#) that SB 719 will cost \$600,000 per-biennium of general fund money; as well as unknown costs to local law enforcement to forcibly confiscate, store, and return firearms.
- ORS 426 and 166.255 respectively already deal with individuals deemed to be a risk to themselves or others.

Conclusion: The issues I've outlined above are enough to warrant serious concern about this measure. SB 719 goes against our shared values as Americans and must be rejected.

Please feel free to contact us at (855) 372-7522 if you have any questions or concerns.

In Freedom,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Philip Watson'.

Philip Watson
Legislative Advocate
Firearms Policy Coalition