

**From:** [john kottre](#)  
**To:** [DeJong Annola](#)  
**Subject:** SB 713  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 16, 2013 11:16:06 AM

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April, 16, 2013

Oregon State Senate

Judiciary Committee

State Capitol Building

900 Court Street N E

Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: SB 713, Firearms Training Facility on EFU Land

Sent via email to Annola DeJong, Committee Administrator: [annola.dejong@state.or.us](mailto:annola.dejong@state.or.us)

Dear Senator Prozanski and members of the Committee;

I ask you to please vote NO regarding SB 713. There is no need for firearms training facility in exclusive farm zone. That zone restriction was put in place to prevent land use conflicts with farming practices. Any farm animal would/ could be stressed to hear potential incessant gunfire. A farmer that helps feed the world does not need any more hardships. Most farms in the state of Oregon are located near homes other than just the immediate farm home. There are second family homes and neighbors within the errant trajectory and sound area. A bullet is capable of over 2 miles of travel from a discharged firearm, putting people and homes not in sight of the area at potential risk of injury or death. Given the recent tragedies happening all over America lately, there are many, many people that would be severely stressed to hear gunfire in or near their community. A home is a safe haven from the uncertain outside world and there is no need to allow a firing range near ANY homes. The NRA manual "suggests" a 1 mile distance from any homes or residential areas to prevent public "distaste" of any such facility or users. Oregon, between County, State and Federal held land has the luxury of having hundreds of thousands acres held for recreational uses. Any firearms facility can be placed upon any of these parcels with minimum conflict with the general public, let alone a homeowner who has such facility move in too close

proximity of their home. The Real estate value would inevitable go down as more and more people are becoming divided in issues regarding guns. There is a need in many areas for the necessary training for safe firearms practices, but not near homes. One of the main rules I was taught as a kid was to be aware of your target and what is behind it.

The recent such facility that was proposed to the Tillamook County Planning Commission and hard fought and won by the local property owners affected was to be placed on a small farm parcel located within 2 miles of the city of Tillamook. The closest house that is in line-of-sight is within 650 yards. Located approx. 800 yards behind the proposed back-drop is another farm with a timber buffer with an elevation of less than 150 feet. One of our County Commissioners had lived near an area north of Tillamook that had shooting in the adjacent forest on an ongoing basis and was not for the proposed facility because the shooting took place too close to his and several other homes in Bay City and that they felt unsafe in their own yards. It was a perfectly legal place for the shooting, but not something as large as the proposed facility with-in 2 miles from the city of Tillamook. There is a need for safe firearms training facility all across America, but NOT in farm zone. Again, I urge you to please vote no on SB 713 and prevent further division among Americans.

Thank you for presenting this to the Committee,

Sincerely,

John Kottre

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