

To: Oregon Senate Committee on the Judiciary, April 17th, 2013

Re: Senate Bill 713

I'm writing today to testify in favor of Senate Bill 713

As a shooting enthusiast I can attest to the difficulty of finding regulated shooting ranges and "firearms training facilities" as defined in ORS 197.770. Appropriate, accurate and safe training is essential to responsible firearms ownership and should be encouraged by the State. Passage of SB 713 would allow for construction of more firearms training facilities while preserving the local control of the planning, zoning and permitting processes. SB 713 has the potential to allow for more citizens to be trained in the proper use of firearms they already own, as well as provide a greater number of safe, regulated ranges as an alternative to unregulated target shooting in gravel pits and open areas on public and private land.

As a rural homeowner who lives on a parcel of land zoned EFU, I can attest to the difficulty presented by EFU zoning in regards to producing income with the property. EFU zoning is generally understood to have a purpose of making money through agriculture. However, the physical size and arrangement of many EFU zoned properties (mine included) preclude traditional agricultural pursuits. Passage of SB 713 would allow landowners in EFU zones an additional avenue to pursue to turn a profit off their land and keep the land in the hands of local residents.

In conclusion, I ask that you pass SB 713 in committee and on the Senate floor. It's passage will provide numerous economic and cultural benefits to residents of rural Oregon.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory Stoll
Turner, Oregon