

Testimony in support of Senate Bill 86.

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I strongly support this Bill which would allow the counties to decide on an each by each basis whether or not to approve a "Firearms training facility". The bill clarifies the lots or parcels that may be approved by the county. Ultimately the counties will decide what is best for their community.

Not long ago we owned 36 acres of mostly timber on Chehalem Mountain between Hillsboro and Newberg. Our horses were never bothered by gun shots or traffic, but they were frightened when they saw fireworks.

I was married to a former Air Force Armament Specialist who prided himself in sighting in rifles and hand guns for others. Target practice is often used to evaluate the efficiency and accuracy of a gun. It's like fine tuning a motor to the gun owner.

We have taken Marksmanship out of our schools. We need proper training facilities around the state.

Each county can make their decisions on where a facility may be placed within the parameters of this law. This bill simply places the decisions in the hands of those closest to the situation. Those groups which have objected to such facilities will then be able to voice their objections directly to their counties.

I urge you to pass SB 86 so that the counties can make those decisions for their communities.