Honorable Senators:

The Constitution of the United States, Amendment 2, provides that the RIGHT to keep and bear arms "SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED."

The Constitution of the State of Oregon , Section 27, notes that "THE PEOPLE SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS FOR DEFENSE OF THEMSELVES AND THE STATE..."

The Funk and Wagnalls Dictionary notes that "INFRINGE" means "...TO VIOLATE OR TRESPASS ON RIGHTS OR PRIVILEGES."

It appears clear that the proposals regarding firearms in the upcoming Short Session (*which, incidentally, was designed only to address budget issues*) are indeed infringements upon the rights of the people to keep and bear arms. Thus, they are patently unconstitutional, and being so, the Legislature is in the position of creating laws that are generally not only unenforceable, but may well be making felons out of regular people who own arms.

I am a septuagenarian, and have lived in Oregon since 1947. I attended High School in. Grants Pass, and attended both Southern Oregon College (back in the day) and after my military service, the University of Oregon, from which I graduated. I have worked in Oregon for over 40 years as a consultant in municipal affairs. I own my own home, and serve on several municipal committees. My single greatest violation of law has been a speeding ticket. However, as a gun owner, your proposed anti-firearms legislation may well render me a felon. Thus, I am prepared to state that if such legislation passes, I will be forced to leave the State of Oregon to avoid conflicts with your proposals.

It is a sad day indeed when political motivation supersedes the constitutional rights of the people.

Respectfully Submitted

J. Michael LaNier 155 Suncrest Road Talent, OR 97540