

29 March 2019

OREGON STATE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY:

I am writing today to voice my opinion and ask you to vote to not support **SB-978**. I cannot be there in person but I want my voice to be heard. I believe deeply in the Constitution of the United States of America and am an avid supporter of its rights granted to me as a citizen of the United States. You, as a group, seem to every year play the same card before the Oregon citizens and attempt to chip away at the rights given to us by the Second Amendment.

It's time that I speak up and tell you how wrong you are and how your divisive actions are offensive to one who is a law abiding citizen and follower of the Constitution of the United States of America. Please read this in as my opposition to this bill, **SB-978**.

Your bill states:

- Legalize age discrimination for firearm dealers to allow them to refuse service to young adults for no reason other than being under the age of 21. **Where in the Constitution does the SECOND AMENDMENT state and give a legal age to purchase firearms? It seems to me that this is common sense that a gang member or juvenile criminal surely would not go to a gun store to buy. They would steal or buy illegally.**
- Contain language from the failed Initiative Petition 44 to impose a one-size-fits-all government solution for firearm storage and require them to be made unavailable for self-defense. **This is the most ludicrous thing that I have ever heard. So when I need to have protection in my home, I have to unlock my safe and prepare to defend my family from a midnight intruder. I just do not know where you folks are coming from! Why not have the police keep their guns locked in their cars until they need them. Show me in the Constitution where it says that responsible gun owners need this government over reach to properly practice good gun practices. Who is going to over see this practice? Police coming to my home at midnight to see if my guns are properly stored?**

- Further victimize gun owners who have suffered a loss or theft of their property with criminal penalties if they fail to follow certain requirements when reporting them. **Now gun owners are to be assessed penalties because we do not follow these rules set forth by the State of Oregon. If a criminal steals my car and kills a person with it am I also to be responsible? How about if a criminal breaks into my garage and steals a hammer and then commits a murder with it am I also responsible? If a criminal steals a knife from my kitchen and stabs, and kills, another person would I also be responsible? This makes no sense to me to punish me for what someone else does with my property which is taken from me by illegal means.**
- Severely restrict minors from using firearms for lawful purposes such as hunting. **Responsible gun owners, like myself, believe and follow very closely common sense when dealing with and teaching minors the rules and operations of fire arms. Hunting is an age old tradition in most all the world. It surely is in this country a tradition which is past on from father to son and provides for some, a food source for their families. I think that for some of you on this committee you have a serious lack of understanding of hunting or this would have never been part of this bill.**
- End the centuries old practice of home manufacturing firearms for lawful, personal use.

Again I see nothing in the United States Constitution that deals with this situation. Will you next end making of knives or forks or any other item that you will in the future deem a weapon? This is a free country, so far, and if I want to make some item for myself and it does not affect anyone else, even if it's a firearm, I should be free to do so. It could be a firearm design that could be used to save our nation in a time of need. Just look at the designs of John M. Browning.

- Allow local governments to create "gun-free zones" in public buildings, colleges, and airports where law-abiding citizens are disarmed and left defenseless against criminals who ignore such arbitrary boundaries. **We as gun owner know and respect areas deemed by law where we do not carry our guns. We know that criminals have no respect for these laws. Who is going to be held responsible for the loss of life in these zones, as it will be a haven for those criminal elements in our society? This is just a warm and fuzzy government approach to anti gun legislation. Responsible gun owners know and respect the law and the regulations set in place in these**

restricted areas. Sorry, but the criminals do not. Criminal elements will applaud this bill and make society less safe with its implementation.

- **Increase the fee to apply for a Concealed Handgun License. This really makes no sense at all. Those who carry a gun illegally have never seen the forms or the inside of the Sheriff's hand gun carry office. They simply carry and never pay anything. We, the licensed carry permit holders are now going to be required to pay extra in fees for what reason? You folks have this situation ass backwards. Lets site those who illegally carry and commit crimes with large fines and jail time for their violations. The Constitution of The United States, Second Amendment, gives me the right to bear arms. I do it legally and obey the laws set forth by my carry permit, my education, and my responsibility as a citizen of this Country.**

I personally would like to thank you for letting me express my views on **SB-978**. Every year we go through this same dribble of fire arm laws. You all need a course of history and Constitution and stop this chipping away at our rights. I am very curious to know what your response would be if you were awakened by a midnight visitor in your home or someone is attempting to assault you or your family member on the street. We all know, and have been warned by sheriffs and police officials, that their response time is not immediate. It would appear you could be in deep trouble or in a fatal situation should this occur. Being prepared should the worst case scenario ever, Heaven forbid, occur, is in reality, the best defense you or your family could be provided with.

Start to evaluate your life and the life and protection of your family members. I think you will come to the conclusion, as I did, what a waste of time and tax payer dollars, the preparation and proposed adoption of the bill **SB-978** has been to the citizens of Oregon.

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