From: <u>s.kemp</u>
To: <u>SJUD Exhibits</u>

Subject: Subject: SB978-1, proposed amendments

Date: Monday, April 1, 2019 9:49:20 PM

Date: March 30, 2019

## To whom it may concern:

I am writing in opposition to the proposed amendments to SB978-1. These amendments appear designed to take away one's Second Amendment rights under the Bill of Rights and the US Constitution. Of the many proposed the only exception, and perhaps useful amendments, is the reporting of stolen firearms. The option to increase the age of firearm purchase is a direct violation without amending the constitution to redefine an adult. In addition, any person who is serving in the US Military between the ages of 18 and under 21 is clearly firearm competent but will not have the right to purchase firearms though they defend our country. You want to take away their freedom to protect themselves while they have volunteered to secure your freedom. This is shameful and If these 18-year-old citizens have the right to vote, they should also have the freedom to protect themselves.

The proposed changes for storing firearms. These changes seem designed to economically squeeze citizens from firearms ownership. They are onerous and will have no impact on unlawful use of a firearm. If I have locked them up, I can still remove them to commit harm to myself or others. The only thing I cannot do is to protect myself and my family through these restrictive and costly changes. You are going to make law abiding citizens into criminals either with burdensome costs they cannot and will not make or by forcing others into making a value-based judgement between family and self-protection or the law. This ought to be unconscionable to each of you by these requirements and limitations. This extends beyond the home and limits one's ability to protect oneself in their vehicle. You are taking away our personal freedoms and values. This will NOT make the state safer.

Likewise, restricting concealed carry in more public spaces, not otherwise having screened all entrants, make us all less safe and guarantees criminals and crazies with a perfect place to go on killing sprees. This is completely foolish. I don't want to get killed because you are too naïve to recognize bad people seek out places that are easy targets. Law enforcement cannot respond quickly enough to protect these spaces. Don't make them even more dangerous with this nonsense. Your proposals to limit one's ability to conceal carry in public spaces is a direct affront to my having taken the training and voluntarily submitting to a background check to ensure I have this right.

Law abiding citizens are not the problem. The criminals will always have their firearms and persons intent on committing suicide have lots of other options. Let's find ways to address mental health and recognition of persons struggling with anger and depression. That can actually make a difference.

You appear to see the state through the eyes of a big city culture of fear, barricades and public bastions, Oregon is large and vastly rural. Having firearms accessible can help save livestock from predator attack. I was raised on a farm, a 12-year-old farmer's son or daughter ought to be able to legally perform farm duties, including livestock protection.

Get out beyond fear of firearms and start looking for ways to help the economic and social strife of many citizens in Oregon. The US Constitution and the Bill of Rights are for everyone. Stop attacking our freedoms as individuals and start improving our economy, education and culture so everyone here truly gets equality of opportunity. That will have a dramatic long-term impact on our social behavior and safety.

Sincerely, Jim Kemp Corvallis, Oregon

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