

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher and members of the Senate Committee On Judiciary,

My name is Mindy, I am a mother, a small business owner and a concerned citizen of Oregon. Thank you for taking my testimony. I urge you to oppose SB 978!

As a mother who lives and works in the Willamette Valley, I am daily concerned for my safety and the safety of my family. We have a real meth problem and a crime problem in Salem and in Portland. Daily tasks such as getting groceries or taking my child to the park are not as carefree as they should be. Just last week, while at our neighborhood park in Salem with my son, three adult men (without kids) who looked very threatening and intimidating came and sat on a park bench and just watched the kids play for about 20-30 minutes. My momma bear alarm sounded and you better believe I had a close eye on them. There were not that many other people at the park and if the three men had decided to attack me or my son, how could I have protected myself? They could have easily over powered us before I could call for help and get police there. Thank GOD for the 2nd amendment and the laws in place that protect my right to conceal carry to protect myself and my family.

I am very alarmed to see the 2nd amendment restrictions put forth in SB 978 that would make me and my family sitting ducks to criminals.

Also within the last year my home had an attempted break-in. I depend on quick access to my gun to be able to defend my family against a home invasion and violent, possibly meth-fueled criminals.

Please oppose SB 978 to preserve my right as a woman to protect myself and my family.

Thank you,

Mindy K.