

My name is Quinn Koppelman and I'm a high schooler in Portland, Oregon; thank you for giving me this opportunity to testify. I am in complete support of the bill HB 2543 because of the necessity for preventing gun violence. As someone who goes to high school at a time where the news seem to be filled with school shootings and the fact that guns might be given to those who can't properly handle them, makes me scared for myself and my peers. Lawmakers need to prioritize passing HB 2543 — closing the deadly "Charleston Loophole" which allows a gun sale to proceed if the background check takes longer than three business days. No gun should ever be sold without a complete background check. By closing this loophole, you'd be preventing firearms falling into the hands of people who shouldn't have access to them, which is essential to keeping our communities safe. It is not an infringement on our 2nd amendment rights by passing this bill, it is merely a precautionary step to protect our schools, families and the society in whole. There is still more work to be done to strengthen our country's gun laws, and law enforcement should be given the time it needs to investigate the small number of cases with complex criminal histories—because in those cases it could save lives. I urge you to vote yes on the HB 2543, for the sake of me and my fellow students as well as the safety of many others.