

Submitter: Jerry Cumiford
On Behalf Of: Year
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2006

The supreme court has already ruled placing an age restriction on 18 to 20 year olds from purchasing or possessing a firearm as unconstitutional. The supreme court used The Militia Act of 1792 as reference, which states, and I quote, "each and every free able-bodied white male citizen of the respective States, resident therein, who is or shall be of age of eighteen years, and under the age of forty-five years (except as is herein after excepted) shall severally and respectively be enrolled in the militia, by the Captain or Commanding Officer of the company, within whose bounds such citizen shall reside" it goes on to say they must provide their own firearm, powder and bullets"! Because this law requires 18 to 45 years to be present for duty and they must provide their own weapon, bullets and powder, which requires 18 to 45 year olds to purchase them. Restricting 18 to 20 year olds from being able to purchase or possess a firearm violates this law, and is, in fact, unconstitutional.

The U.S. supreme court has directed "all" lower courts to look at the two step process for ruling on these laws. 1. Look at the history of the text and 2. the context of the text. This bill violates both!

Like many of your constituents, I like to take my children and grandchildren hunting and teach them about weapons and the outdoors. If this should pass at the Oregon State level this will restrict my ability to do so, may even prevent it from me teaching them to respect and handle a firearm properly and with safety and concern until it goes in front of a judge that believes in the constitution and rule of law. These 18 to 20 year olds should have the right as an adult, at the age of 18, to purchase and own a firearm. They have every right to defend themselves as many live on their own if they need be and the supreme court has ruled that they have the right to use firearms to defend ourselves, in our homes and if we are away from our homes. They have committed no crimes, don't treat them as criminals! Education is the key here to understanding firearm safety and respect!

This will not stop gun violence, it will more than likely cause young people to become victims, as it will require those that already have firearms to remove them from their presence. If you wish to stop gun violence, look at stopping criminals, not punishing law abiding gun owners!

The question for you is, will you continue to push a bill that has already been found unconstitutional, knowing it will not pass, knowing it will be challenged, where and fail because it "already has been ruled unconstitutional" and waste our taxpayer money, time and you will be attempting to violate the constitution?