

Submitter: Susan Dumolt  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: HB2005

I would like to start off my testimony on this bill by stating I am NOT anti-gun. I live in rural Clackamas county, my family owns multiple guns, and I believe they have a place in our society. What I am opposed to is how guns are being promoted in our society today. I have lived on my rural property for 50 years. In the past there was increased gun use during the fall for hunting purposes. These days new neighbors have "gun ranges" on their properties and we hear non stop shooting for hours on most days, year round.

The second amendment, in its entirety, states, "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." A WELL REGULATED MILITIA.... Right now what we have is an unregulated mess! Suicides are extremely high in Oregon, homicides are up, unintentional shootings are up, domestic violence with guns is up, and we are not immune to the horrific mass shootings that plague our nation at a much higher rate than any other developed nation on this earth. The idea that the answer to a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun has been thoroughly debunked. With the highest ratio of guns to people on the planet, we are nowhere near the safest nation in the world. And now we have a rise in the number of ghost guns that are increasingly being used in gun crimes. Why are we wanting to tie the police's hands to keep them from helping us to have a safer society? The International Association of Chiefs of Police put out a statement. "The criminal use of semiautomatic assault weapons pose a great risk to our officers and the communities they are sworn to protect." Ghost guns are made from components that have no serial numbers, are made from easily-obtained kits purchased on the internet, or undetectable materials printed on 3D printers at home, and require no background checks of any kind. This legislation to prohibit ghost guns in Oregon is an important step in making our communities safer. It is up to us to do what we can to protect our citizens from this "unregulated mess" that has been created in our society.