

Submitter: Bryson Baker
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2005

I am writing to you tonight to only ask for myself and my fellow Oregonians to be able to defend ourselves. My friends who are people of color, my friends who are parents, and my friends who are members of the LGBTQ+ community have been reaching out to me since new gun control legislation has been introduced in the last few years with many valid concerns. They are afraid. They are afraid that in a world where they are targeted for their gender identity and sexual orientation that they will not be able to defend themselves from these mobs of people that hate them for expressing their gender identity. They are afraid because someone may try to kill them due to the color of their skin, they may die because they do not have something to fight back with. They worry because they will not be able to protect themselves and their children. They worry and they are afraid. These people have the same rights as other citizens of our state. They have a right to defend themselves from serious bodily harm and death. They have a constitutional right to be able to defend themselves, and I believe that if this law passed, they will be discriminated against even more, as it will be more difficult for them to have access to tools to defend themselves. I ask and plead with you for them, and for the rest of the citizens of Oregon, and for the upcoming generations that will grow up or transplant to this state, that you protect the people's right to bear arms and to defend themselves. I feel that any law that makes it more difficult to allow a concerned and law abiding civilian to obtain or manufacture a firearm or an ammunition magazine of any capacity for the protection of themselves and others, is an infringement on their rights. It is also discrimination due to its effects on the LGBTQ+ community, the physically disabled, people of color, and many other demographics that make up our beautiful state. I ask of you to not allow this law to pass for them, for myself, and for this state.