

Submitter: DANIEL ESTACIO
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2006

This law is one that has the unfortunate nature of attempting to resolve a problem by attacking those who are not a problem. Oregon is a state with many legal gun owners who use firearms for recreation, provision of sustenance, protection of livestock and both personal and property protection. Rural people often see firearms as tools that are used frequently and safely, while sportsmen must commit to safe usage and pass testing to make sure they understand such usage. The purpose of this law is not really to make Oregon a safer place, but to be used as a method for one political party to gain power over another. In addition to those already mentioned among other groups, a law such as this would drive a deeper wedge between Law Makers in Salem and our rural communities, sportsmen and legal gun users than already exists.

For example, Teenagers are allowed to drive at 16, but are more prone to accidents. We understand that these young people must be trained in order to safely operate a vehicle. We allow them to do so because they are at an age where responsibility begins to be given to them. Although far more people die at the hands of young drivers than young gun users, we attack the lawful gun users because the political climate currently allows for it, while changing the driving age to 22 or forbidding those under 22 from owning a vehicle would be a disaster politically.