

Submitter: Lisa Atkin
On Behalf Of: Oregon DC Project
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB348

This Testimony is in opposition of SB 348. The very nature of this bill permits its misuse against law abiding citizens through the further restriction and/or removal of our constitutional right to firearms ownership. While the bill claims to seek research into illegal firearms ownership, Oregon's history clearly demonstrates unquestionable doubt that the purpose and intent is to invade the privacy and God-given rights of firearm ownership by those of us who do adhere to the laws. You have already and repeatably attempted, and in some areas succeeded, to pass laws that severely restrict ownership, personal choices in that ownership, and the ability to defend ourselves against those who would seek to hurt innocent human lives. The research agenda that comes out of this bill, should it pass, I guarantee will continue to do nothing regarding removal of criminal's access to firearms but everything to do with restricting legal gun ownership.

We already have laws that would control illegal firearms use, but you, continue to restrict law enforcement's ability to use those laws to detain, and the justice system's ability to convict already known violent, aggressive and criminals who also have a consistent record of recidivism. Instead of permitting the continual release of known hardened criminals and wasting time at the Oregon Legislature dreaming up bills that give the appearance that you care about the rights of legal owners through endless taxpayer wasting bills mandating ineffective divisive research, let's just enforce the laws we already have and hold criminals accountable to full sentences. Do that for a few years and then pass a bill to research how actually holding criminals accountable to existing laws has an effect - not that you would need to and the crazy crime rate Oregon is infamous for across the entire US would obviously reduce. There's your challenge - step up to the plate!