

Submitter: Moxie Loeffler  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: SB348

Members of the Committee:

I am writing to support SB 348. I am an Internal Medicine and Addiction Medicine Physician with a Masters degree in Public Health from University of California Berkeley.

The burden of gun violence must be lessened, and a balance must be struck between the second amendment and public safety. I have seen so many patients who lost family members and friends, or who were injured by gunfire in their neighborhoods that I do not see gun ownership the same way I did before I became a physician. The anger people have about delays in permitting, denied permits, or increases in complexity come from a flawed mindset of entitlement to own a potentially deadly weapon.

I do not oppose gun rights— in fact, gun rights do not exist. People who own guns ought to do so if they are found worthy of gun privileges. The lack of this distinction in American law has created a false binary public debate that ends in stalemate and endless loss of life.

The right we all ought to preserve first and foremost is our right to freedom from bullets. The following very minor and subordinate concerns ought never distract policymakers from their duty to protect the public from bullets fired by enraged, armed people:

- the cost of permits
- delays in permits
- missing out on elk hunting trips due to poor planning
- who will offer gun safety training
- the general complexity of gun regulation

I taught people to shoot rifles when I was a teenager, and I grew up in a rural area where most of my neighbors owned guns. They were trustworthy people who hunted. We shot targets for fun out in fields where there was little else to do. We never would have objected to any system that was likely to prevent dangerous people from joining us in enjoying our gun privileges.

I hope that the Committee will support this legislation and preserve its intent while altering anything else needed to help it meet its purpose.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,  
Moxie Loeffler, DO, MPH  
Eugene, Oregon