

Submitter: Robert Fish
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB348

To whom it may concern;

I am writing in regards to SB 348, and to express my opposition to it. On the outside it may seem like a good idea; however, if one were to investigate the inner workings, a giant quagmire would be exposed. Beyond the open-ended expectations of undefined "qualifications" and "proficiencies" there seems to be a mostly qualitative and opinionated determination to be made by the agency that will give the purchase permit.

Looking past the legal wording, and double-speak that is commonly used in legislative compositions, the main objection to this Bill is that its intent (even though not openly expressed) is to reduce the accessibility of handguns and rifles for the underprivileged citizens of Oregon. The limitations are all based on fees, ability to have free time to attend classes, and perceptions of having a "stable" personal character.

The Oregon Constitution, Article 1, Section 27 reads, as such: "Section 27. Right to bear arms; military subordinate to civil power. The people shall have the right to bear arms for the defense of themselves, and the State, but the Military shall be kept in strict subordination to the civil power." If one were to combine that with the 2nd Amendment of the United States of America: "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." It would be plainly visible that this bill, along with measure 114 (which was sold to the underinformed voters as a simple magazine restriction) are completely unconstitutional, unlawful, and repugnant to the spirit of self-defense, and personal liberty. It also creates an imbalance between the violent criminals and the innocent citizens who merely wish to protect themselves.

In closing, this bill does not address the other factors that were consistent to nearly every mass murder situation that has occurred in the United States. 1} The weapons were either illegally possessed, or the person had no indications of committing the atrocities. 2} The facilities that were attacked were "Gun Free Zones", and the victims had zero opportunity to defend themselves. 3} EVERY ONE OF THE MURDERERS had mental disturbances that would classify them as Psychopaths because they took innocent human lives, with no concern of the devastation they were creating.

Please DO NOT allow this bill to proceed to the next step in becoming law.

Thank you,
Robert Fish