

Submitter: Michael Berry
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB348

Chair Prozanski; Vice-Chair Thatcher; Members Gelser-Blouin, Linthicum, and Manning -

I encourage you to kill this bill in Committee. I can articulate no better reason for killing this bill than the one offered by a gentleman (last name = Taher) who provided live testimony before the Senate Committee on Judiciary during the 5 PM meeting of 3/27/2023. He explained (I believe correctly) that we all have a basic human right to self-defense, derived from our humanity. These sorts of rights may not be validly taken from us by a society, a government, or even a majority vote. Here is a link to the video record of his approximately 3 minute, 15 second testimony:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/mediaplayer?clientID=4879615486&eventID=2023031420&startStreamAt=6030&stopStreamAt=6225>

Please revisit that presentation.

No further reasons should be required to abandon this bill. Nonetheless, I will add these.

1. If adopted as law, then the criminals will have the advantage of superior weapons as compared to almost anyone that they might prey upon. The state is experiencing increasing criminal activities by multi-national crime cartels, traditional gangs, common garden-variety criminals, you-name-it.
2. Enforcement of existing gun laws is inconsistent at best. Passing more laws and regulations to bungle is not likely to improve safety or health.
3. Background checks are already a requirement of legal gun purchases. According to a person who provided live testimony before the Senate Committee Judiciary during its 5PM meeting on 3/27/2023, the State may have dropped the ball with regard to following up on people who were denied transfers. Here is a link to written testimony by that person:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/PublicTestimonyDocument/86754> . In it, the person states (and I agree), "... the state should prioritize ensuring the enforcement of current laws directly impacting this issue before justifying a need for more laws."

Please- at least remove the Emergency Clause so that citizens will have a better chance of successfully using the Referendum process to challenge the new laws that would be created by this bill. The tactic of using the Emergency Clause is a dirty trick that has been abused ad nauseam. This practice should be ended.

Thank you.

Michael S (Mike) Berry
Oregon Resident of Senate District 1
Citizen of USA