

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee: I strongly support Senate Bill 348, strengthening Measure 114 and providing reasonable regulations of firearms in Oregon, and I urge you to advance it out of committee. A majority of Oregon voters endorsed Measure 114 in the last election, and unfortunately it has been held in limbo due to legal challenges by an out-of-state pro-gun organization. The bill before you would add additional protections to Measure 114, which are reasonable and would not infringe upon the rights of lawful gun owners. The mass shooting in Nashville earlier this week, taking the lives of 3 children and 3 adults, underscores the emergency we are facing in our country and state due to gun violence. Limiting the size of magazines, requiring permits to own a gun, increasing the age to purchase firearms from 18 to 21, and allowing a 72-hour pause before a gun sale is executed are small prices to pay for reducing the threat that faces Oregonians from the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in our communities. There is good evidence that the provisions of SB 348 would save lives. I urge you to exercise common sense in advancing this bill.