

Submitter: Julie Scholz
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

DATE: March 16, 2025

TO: Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallan,
and members of the House Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Julie Scholz, MBA, Executive Director of the Oregon Pediatric Society
SUBJECT: Support for House Bill 3075-1: Implement Measure 114 Components

My name is Julie Scholz, and I am writing on behalf of the Oregon Pediatric Society (OPS). We give our strongest support to HB 3075, which provides necessary funding, infrastructure, and guidelines to finally implement the life-saving components of Measure 114.

As a medical organization that represents Oregon's pediatricians, OPS actively supported the 2022 state ballot initiative Measure 114. OPS members collected signatures to get the people-powered initiative on the ballot, wrote opinion articles and a statement for the voters' pamphlet, and shared stories about TOO MANY CHILDREN they had medically treated who were maimed or killed by guns. OPS is thrilled that in March 2025, the State Court of Appeals recognized the constitutionality of the voter-approved measure. As soon as the court's stay is lifted, it's time to push forward without delay and implement Measure 114. To do that effectively, we need HB 3075.

Evidence-based research and personal experience shows that Measure 114's policies for firearm purchase – completing background checks, obtaining a permit, and taking a safety training course – will reduce gun homicides, suicides, and accidental injury in Oregon. It's common sense public safety. To drive vehicles on our highways, people get appropriate driver's education, pass tests to get their driver's license, and are required to keep a license plate on their cars. In Oregon, firearms are the leading cause of death for kids, more than motor vehicle accidents. How can we do less with something potentially more deadly?

After waiting more than two years, you have the ability to make Oregon one of the strongest states in the country for laws that would reduce gun violence, deaths by firearms, and family heartbreak. OPS urges our Oregon legislators to vote yes for HB 3075 and other gun tragedy prevention bills this session. Medical providers save lives every day; now it's your turn.

Thank you for your courage to do the right thing for children and public health.