

Submitter: Justin Falconer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

I am writing to express my firm opposition to Oregon Senate Bill 243 and its associated legislation. The proposed measures are misguided, ineffective, and impose undue burdens on law-abiding citizens. Below are my primary concerns:

SB 243 imposes excessive waiting periods on firearm purchases and fails to address the root causes of gun violence while penalizing responsible owners. Evidence from other states shows that such measures do not significantly reduce crime but instead create barriers for individuals seeking to exercise their constitutional rights.

Rather than targeting unlawful possession or prosecuting violent offenders, SB 243 focuses on burdensome compliance requirements and restricting lawful citizens. This misdirected approach will strain law enforcement resources without improving public safety.

The bill imposes costly mandates on firearm dealers, government agencies, and private citizens, leading to increased taxpayer expenses and potential business closures—without proven benefits.

SB 243 does infringe upon our 2nd amendment rights and invite legal challenges, wasting state resources. The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly ruled against similar overreach (e.g., Bruen, Heller).

Instead of ineffective restrictions, the legislature should focus on:

- Strengthening mental health resources
- Enforcing existing laws against violent criminals
- Investing in community-based violence prevention programs that do not burden only lawful gun owners

I urge you to oppose SB 243 and related bills and instead pursue policies that address crime without infringing on rights of or burdening Oregonians.