

Submitter: Isaiah Pines
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

I am a leftist and oppose this legislation.

Properly enforce the many rules and regulations already on the books. What is the point of adding more if we don't strictly enforce the ones we already have? Provide incentives/tax breaks on safe firearms storage including gun safe purchases and installation in homes and vehicles to prevent unauthorized access and theft, which are huge components in accidents and criminal violence. Fund gun safety, training and education classes made freely available to the public just like hunters safety courses. There is a huge lack here, many trainers and educators are booked out or aren't financially accessible to lower income. Improve education and mental health care accessibility especially for our youth, and address other core issues which lead to crime and violence such as poverty, homelessness, and gang violence.

Measures like these only make it more difficult for responsible citizen gun owners like my spouse, who as a result of M114 has had to spend hundreds on rare, nonstandard 10rd magazines for her defensive pistol since the standard 15rd mags that came with the pistol are now banned. She is only doing this because she is a law-abiding citizen. There isn't a single criminal with violent intent in OR putting the money and effort she is into swapping their 15rd mags for expensive, boutique 10rd mags because of M114. Accessories banned under this legislation would be no different. Bans also encourage panic-buying by people who may not have purchased a firearm in the first place, resulting in thousands of firearms and accessories ending up in untrained and unready hands. This is the opposite of what anyone wants. They also ban unserialized, impossible to track accessories that will never go away because they are prolific and easy to manufacture. Lastly, even if M114 worked the way it was intended it is easy for criminals to bypass; just carry more 10rd mags, or even more guns.

Much of this legislation also lets police departments decide who does (and most importantly, who doesn't) get to purchase, own and carry firearms. These are the same police departments we rightfully supported a movement to defund due to racism and other human rights abuses against minorities. This is the kind of legislation that allowed racist LE to discriminately deny MLK Jr. a concealed carry permit after multiple threats on his life. It's the same kind of legislation Reagan passed to keep firearms out of the hands of POC defending themselves against violent racism in CA. In case you haven't noticed, our government is descending into totalitarianism with Nazi and KKK sympathizers at the helm. They influence and control our law enforcement organizations. This is the worst time to give them more

power regarding civilian arms or to make it difficult for average citizens, especially the poor and minorities, to practice their 2A rights. People on the left and minorities (especially trans and LGBTQ+ folks) are purchasing weapons at an accelerating rate and it is for good reason; history doesn't repeat itself, but it rhymes.

The effort and taxpayer money put into these bans is pointless because a) they're ineffective, unenforceable and easily ignored/bypassed by criminals, and b) bound to be expensively defended only to be struck down due to unconstitutionality/unpopularity at great taxpayer expense, when those funds could be far more usefully allocated in the ways I mentioned. Those measures would also likely get high bipartisan support, in addition to helping the problem.

As with all things, focusing on education, safety, and addressing base societal factors are absolutely key. Outright bans and excessive controls on things like abortion, alcohol and THC are equally misdirected. They're not about promoting public safety, but stoking political polarity and division between the working class to rally the partisan base rather than addressing root causes, because that is what is politically beneficial for lawmakers.