

Submitter: Joseph Stuart
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Oregon Measure 114, which imposes restrictive firearm permitting requirements and bans magazines over 10 rounds. While I fully support efforts to enhance public safety, I believe this measure is deeply flawed, unconstitutional, and ultimately ineffective in addressing crime.

Unreasonable and Unconstitutional Permitting Process

Measure 114 creates an arbitrary and burdensome permit-to-purchase requirement, effectively turning a fundamental constitutional right into a privilege controlled by government bureaucracy. It requires law-abiding citizens to obtain a permit before purchasing a firearm, yet fails to ensure an efficient or fair process for applicants. Given the severe backlogs and inefficiencies already present in Oregon's permitting systems, this law creates unnecessary obstacles for responsible gun owners while doing little to prevent criminals from obtaining firearms illegally.

Magazine Ban and Its Impact on Self-Defense

The ban on magazines exceeding 10 rounds disproportionately affects law-abiding citizens, particularly those who rely on firearms for personal protection. Standard-capacity magazines (often holding more than 10 rounds) are commonly used for self-defense and sport shooting. Criminals, by contrast, do not adhere to magazine limits, and restricting law-abiding citizens only puts them at a disadvantage in life-threatening situations.

Disproportionate Burden on Rural and Marginalized Communities

This measure places a heavier burden on rural Oregonians who do not have easy access to law enforcement and rely on firearms for self-defense. Additionally, the financial costs associated with the permitting process—such as fees, training requirements, and potential travel expenses—disproportionately impact lower-income residents.

Failure to Address the Root Causes of Crime

Gun violence is a serious issue, but restricting the rights of law-abiding citizens does not address the underlying problems of mental health, drug addiction, and lack of law enforcement resources. Instead of criminalizing responsible gun owners, Oregon should focus on enforcing existing laws, targeting violent criminals, and improving

mental health services.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to oppose Measure 114 and seek solutions that actually enhance public safety without infringing on the constitutional rights of Oregonians.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Joseph Stuart