

Submitter: Michael Douglas
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding House Bill 3075. I am writing to express my strong opposition to this legislation, which modifies the firearm permit provisions of Ballot Measure 114 (2022). While I understand the intent to address public safety, I believe HB 3075 oversteps constitutional boundaries, imposes undue burdens on law-abiding citizens, and risks exacerbating inequities in our communities.

First, HB 3075 infringes upon the Second Amendment rights of Oregonians by creating an overly restrictive permitting process for firearm ownership. The expansion of the waiting period from 30 to 60 days and the increased discretion granted to law enforcement in approving permits introduce unnecessary obstacles to exercising a constitutionally protected right. History has shown that discretionary permitting systems can lead to inconsistent and potentially biased outcomes, undermining the equal application of the law.

Second, the financial barriers imposed by this bill are significant and disproportionate. Raising the maximum fee for an initial permit application from \$65 to \$150, in addition to costs for renewals, background checks, and mandatory training, places a heavy burden on working-class Oregonians. For many, particularly those in marginalized or low-income communities, these fees could effectively price them out of their constitutional rights. Rights should not come with a paywall, and this provision risks creating a system where firearm ownership becomes a privilege for the wealthy rather than a right for all.

Third, the practical implications of HB 3075 are troubling. By doubling the waiting period and adding stricter eligibility requirements—without corresponding funding for implementation—this bill could overwhelm an already strained system. Law enforcement agencies may lack the resources to process applications efficiently, leading to delays that leave law-abiding citizens vulnerable, especially those seeking firearms for self-defense in urgent situations. Furthermore, the requirement to limit legal challenges to Marion County Circuit Court restricts access to justice for those living far from the capital, adding yet another layer of hardship.

Finally, I am concerned about the timing and intent behind HB 3075. With Measure 114 still under judicial review, this bill appears to circumvent the courts and the will of Oregon voters by preemptively altering a contested law. This approach undermines

the democratic process and dismisses the ongoing legal scrutiny that Measure 114 deserves. Legislation of this magnitude should not be rushed through as an emergency measure, especially when its predecessor remains unresolved.

I urge the committee to consider the broader implications of HB 3075 on Oregonians' rights, finances, and trust in government. Rather than advancing public safety, this bill risks alienating law-abiding citizens, deepening inequities, and inviting further legal challenges. I respectfully request that you vote "No" on HB 3075 and allow the courts to fully address Measure 114 before imposing new restrictions.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Mike Douglas
Scappoose, Oregon