

HB 3015 OPPOSITION

Good Day. My name is Tery Peters and I deeply oppose this bill.

I encourage the committee to approach hearing testimony with humility. Many of those testifying in opposition to this bill have forgotten more about firearms than you will ever know; the fact that you control the fate of their rights is a cruel irony most of us cannot stomach. I myself have learned more from these good, Godfearing, gun-loving Oregonians than I knew before.

So-Called Large-Capacity Magazines. Beginning with the so-called "Large Capacity Magazine" restriction, this bill seeks to ban magazines that come standard with common firearms used for self-defense. Common handgun capacities include 15+1, 17+1, etc. If you do not know what "+1" means, I submit you are too uneducated on the subject to vote on it. If you cannot articulate the difference between an automatic firearm, semi-automatic firearm, lever action firearm, or pump action firearm without using hand gestures or making "pew pew" sounds with your mouth, I again submit that you are too uneducated on this subject to vote. Last, if you cannot articulate the difference between a tubular magazine, cylinder, and a detachable magazine, please kindly abstain from speaking about firearms, including voting on our rights.

There is already a strong black market for firearms and magazines as well as other states who do not have magazine restrictions. Those who wish to break the law by killing innocent people are unbothered by breaking additional laws in acquiring illegal magazines. One does not plan to defend oneself the same way one plans to commit mass murder. While a mass shooter will certainly plan ahead to bring additional magazines, most law abiding Oregonians who carry a firearm for self-defense do not plan ahead for defense in the same way (i.e., we do not walk around with many extra magazines). While the mass shooter wakes up with the plan, the defending Oregonian is caught off guard when forced to defend themselves; with adrenaline racing, changing magazines can but the defending Oregonian in vulnerable situations. Stories are abundant on this point and likely repeated by those in opposition to this bill. On the contrary, this bill decreases public safety by depriving those law-abiding Oregonians of the best tools available for self-defense. This is especially true in rural Oregon where Oregonians face different self-defense needs.

Rural Oregonians face natural predators such as wolves, bears, coyotes, and mountain lions and cannot rely on law enforcement quickly responding across larger, sparsely populated counties with fewer resources and more ground to cover. Law abiding Oregonians have the constitutional right to access the best tools for self-defense available. This bill artificially forces the law-abiding Oregonian to use less useful tools while doing nothing to prevent mass murderers from accessing these tools from neighboring states or the black market.

This bill ties the hands of law abiding citizens, yet the criminals, who disregard laws, continue to break them.

Respectfully,

Tery Peters