

Submitter: Charles Brinton
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

Thank you Chair and Committee members for accepting my testimony.

My name is Charles Brinton, and I opposed HB 3075 and any amendment to this bill. I have lived in Oregon my entire life (54 years) and raised my family on the East side of the state. I grew up around firearms for hunting, sport shooting, and self/family protection. I am a law-abiding citizen who has worked for the Department of Corrections for 29 years. Throughout my career, myself, my family, and coworkers have received many threats from incarcerated and released inmates, even being approached by them with threats. Oregon does not recognize Department of Corrections employees as law enforcement; therefore, I would not fall under that protection from this HB. This bill would restrict, if not remove most of my opportunity to protect my family.

This bill does not address or hold criminals to current state and federal laws already on the books, it simply turns law abiding citizens into criminals because they own a certain type of firearm, based on the cosmetic appearance or the magazine size. This bill will open the door to further limit and control citizens, in the future, by making firearms and magazines already owned by law abiding citizens, illegal.

Additionally, saying that a specific permit process needs to be followed further inhibits law abiding citizens from exercising their 2nd Amendment rights. The 2nd Amendment does not state that in order to exercise your Right, that you must obtain permission from the State or Federal government.

There is no process in place that would meet the requirement for obtaining such a permit further impeding the rights of law-abiding citizens. I have contacted several County Sherrif Departments, none of which have any idea what this process will look like, nor do they have the capability of meeting the permit process. Furthermore, limitations to law abiding citizens will occur due to trying to plan, travel and pay for any additional permit process. Not everyone can afford to pay additional fees or costs for travel to obtain such a forced permit. This Bill puts a burden on low income, elderly, and minority citizens, including rural Oregon communities.

Please recognize the differences in the State; geographically, financially, and other demographics. This Bill is not a one size fits all fix. Use current State and Federal firearms laws already on the books to address firearms concerns. Adding additional laws is only that; an additional law but does not address the root cause of firearm crimes and/or deaths.

I urge you to vote no on HB3075 and any additional amendments that come up associated with this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Oregon law abiding citizen, father, husband, firearms owner, Correctional Officer for 29 years

Charlie Brinton