

Submitter: Brandon Welch

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

As an Army veteran who served to protect the freedoms of this nation, I stand firmly against Oregon Measure 114. Having put my life on the line in combat zones, I know firsthand the importance of self-defense and the right to bear arms enshrined in the Second Amendment. This measure, with its restrictive permitting process and magazine capacity limits, undermines those rights for law-abiding citizens like me. After years of service, I shouldn't have to jump through bureaucratic hoops—background checks I've already passed for my military clearance, arbitrary training requirements, and fees—just to exercise a constitutional right I fought for. It feels like a slap in the face to veterans and civilians alike who value personal liberty and responsibility.

Beyond that, Measure 114 does little to address real public safety concerns and instead punishes those who follow the law. In my time in the Army, I learned that effective security comes from practical solutions, not feel-good restrictions that disarm the good guys. Criminals, by definition, don't obey gun laws—whether it's permits or magazine limits—and this measure leaves veterans like me, who rely on firearms for protection after facing threats overseas and at home, less equipped to defend ourselves. The vague "public safety" justification feels hollow when you consider that the military trusts us with far more than a 10-round magazine. Oregonians deserve policies that respect our service and our rights, not ones that treat us like suspects.