

Submitter: David Shaw

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

This testimony is submitted by David Shaw, PhD (retired psychologist) and Patricia Chandler, LPC (retired counselor). We were mental health first responders at Thurston High School in Springfield on May 21, 1998, two hours after the shooting in which two students were killed and 27 were injured. We will never forget doing critical incident debriefing with surviving students. As professionals with many years of experience specializing in the treatment of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, we know a significant portion of those survivors still suffer from the impact of this shooting. We have advocated for gun safety laws since our experience at Thurston. Common sense gun safety laws can reduce the frequency of gun violence such as the shooting at Thurston and suicide deaths with guns.

In particular HB 3075 Implementing Permit-to-Purchase (Ballot Measure 114) would insure a statewide permit to purchase a firearm. Several school shooters, like Kip Kinkel, used weapons purchased for them by their parents. HB 3075 would inform parents of age requirements and make it illegal for them to violate permit laws by making a straw purchase for their child. HB 3075 would help in reducing gun violence like the Thurston shooting.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Shaw, PhD and Patricia Chandler, LPC