

Submitter: Timothy Pope  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4145

To all those that will listen:

250 years ago we freed ourselves from a tyrannical government and the second rule in our bill of rights was the right to bear arms... A RIGHT that "shall not be infringed." Yet here we are against a government attempting to strip our rights away. I will try to be brief arguing against some of the points the opposition has given beginning with the author of this bill.

I spoke with the man who said he created this bill. He is a man who said he lost a friend of his (a doctor working in a busy Eugene ER) due to gun related suicide. I feel for his loss and as a combat veteran, I have experienced loss as well. This bill would have done nothing to prevent any of their deaths. A 10 round magazine would have changed the course of nothing, a background check would have changed nothing, and an unruly permit system would have changed nothing.

Some argue that this somehow reduces gun violence. All this rule would do would restrict law abiding citizens. If you spent any time with local law enforcement, you'd hear their problems with underage gang youth obtaining guns illegally. You'd hear of them obtaining stolen guns. You'd hear of the guns found on drug seizures. Any gun law will not affect these criminals. They certainly do not assist Americans from protecting themselves.

I've heard the argument that today's rifles are "weapons of war" and the founders of the second amendment don't know what was coming. Let's talk about weapons of war. 1776 we took arms against the king and England. Those were the weapons of its day. They were used to fight against a tyrannical government who like today were attempting to strip away rights to maintain control. I see the weapons of today's war. Technology supersedes anything we're arguing over today, but the arms we have access today are similar weapons we've seen defeat us in places like Afghanistan, Iraq, Vietnam, and others. In 1776, citizens used 50 caliber ball and bigger. We as Americans have adapted and evolved but the intentions of the second amendment have not. Meant to suppress a tyrannical government and defend every blade of grass.

I continue to see people argue against this bill while purchasing last minute mags and ARs for themselves because "they aren't the problem." They aren't. And when my daughter reaches an age where she's old enough to decide if or how she chooses to protect herself, she won't be the problem either. This bill is unconstitutional, un-

American, and strips rights of our future generations.

I've seen similar laws in the eastern states. I as A LAW ABIDING AMERICAN was not allowed to purchase a firearm. I was at a shooting competition and WAS NOT ALLOWED TO EVEN PURCHASE AMMO! I see the direction that Oregon is going. I see how restrictive it is destroying our culture and rights of future generations. This is not the way. Help bring Oregon back on the right course.