

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter to make comments in opposition SB978. I have been a resident of the state of Oregon for over 28 years and I can say I have never seen a need for such wide sweeping and discriminatory laws that deal out punishment and restrictions on people who just want the ability to exercise their 2nd amendment rights and have never done anything that could jeopardize their ability to have said rights.

I say discriminatory because of the policy set in this bill when passed will enable private business to deny a certain demographic when they come of age to buy a firearm. At the same time as this bill is being looked over, there are people speaking saying we need to lower the voting age. How can you possibly believe that a 16 year old is responsible for such a powerful right as to vote when you can't believe that they are responsible enough to buy a gun until they are 21. That they are ready to sign up for the armed forces at age 17, where they will be handling real military firearms that are stronger than an AR15.

Other sections of this bill violates the privacy of our own homes by dictating how we must store our own property and the threat is implied that there can be searches created without just cause. That the owner is held responsible for any action taken by other persons using said firearm if stolen. And people who go the extra mile to gain their Oregon CHL are not permitted to be in public with their defensive weapon despite that conceal carrying doesn't bother anyone when said person is acting according to laws of the land.

This will set the precedent that all gun owners are guilty before proven innocent and the facts of our day to day lives at home are not meant to be public. If I was someone who was looking over the legality of these bills I would be outraged that people can even think of such things that violate our rule of law and standard that all men are innocent until proven guilty. That persons who didn't even commit the act but had an act of theft acted upon them are held liable for the actions of others using said article of theft. we are not held liable if our vehicle is stolen then runs over a person so why is that same standard not set for owners of firearms?

Finally another reason I oppose this bill is the underhanded tactics being used in its creation. The bill was first introduced as an action to study the low gun related crimes in this state by the police. but then a week before you get to look at it they amend it with multiple different sections and measures that only serve to make life more difficult for the average Oregonian. The fact that these changes came so close to the deadline should set off red flags that there might be something not legal in this bill or there is an ulterior motive that goes beyond the scope of this bills intended purpose.

I hope you exercise reason and logic when it comes to your decision about this bill and leave personal feelings out of the equation. Many wrong choices are made in heat of the moment decisions where feelings are at the fore front of peoples thinking. This bill was made during such a moment.

With Respect,

Bradly Mabie  
Sutherlin, Oregon