

Chairman, Committee Members,

My name is John Felsheim. I live in Coos County, city of Coquille.

I am apposed to Senate Bill 978 for several reasons:

1. When Senate Bill 978 was published as a summary it was portrayed as a 9 line bill that was supposed to be a study by the Oregon State Police concerning unlawful firearm transfers under ORS 166.412 (5) & 166.436 (7) and then for the OSP to report the results as well as any recommendations for legislation, to the committee before September 15, 2020.

- a. This 9 Line Bill has now been amended in a way that totally removed the bill's original purpose of the OSP Study and replaced it with a 44-page Amendment that contains 32 SECTIONS that represent a power grab to take away Oregon Gun Owners rights.

2. The right to concealed carry is being restricted. We gun owners that have taken special training and have been approved by our local sheriff are approved to carry in this state. We do so to help protect, not only ourselves and our families, but also perhaps a police officer in distress or perhaps another person or business that find themselves in eminent danger. There is a lot of evidence that an armed citizen can and do neutralize hostile situations.

3. As this amendment is written, all our guns at home must be lock in a safe or have an approved cable lock on them. That doesn't leave us much protection from that person or persons that might conduct an armed home invasion.

4. This bill states that gun dealers or those that transfer guns can do so for people that are from 18 years old and older. I believe that this state has legislators proposing that the voting age should be lowered to 16 years of age. I bring that up only to ask if you believe that a responsible age for gun owners is 18 to 21 years of age (and older) than the responsible age for voting should remain at 18.

5. Finally, I would like to contest that we have an emergency in this state concerning this bill. No such evidence has been presented to establish the need. It leaves one to think that the authors of this bill are using this as an excuse to avoid the voters will and run these gun control ordinances through before the general public knows what happened.

Therefore, I ask you to vote "NO" on SB 978.