

Submitter: Jim Pittenger
On Behalf Of: HB 2006
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2006

I am a retired marriage and family therapist. I worked from 1979 to 2021 in the towns of Coos Bay and Florence, covering the mid coast area. Most of the gun violence cases that came to me involved youth ranging in age from 6 years old to 20 years old. My experience is typical, as most gun violence involves young males under the age of 25. This makes sense based on research that demonstrates that the connection in the brain between areas dealing with emotion and those dealing with decision making is normally not fully formed until approximately 25 years of age. HB 2006 raises the age of possession to 21 years of age, which in my opinion, is 4 years shy of what it should be. Regardless, HB 2006 is a vast improvement on the current situation. HB 2006 will save lives and unimaginable suffering. I urge the Committee to support passage of HB 2006.