

Submitter: Erica Hass
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2006

March 14, 2023

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary
Oregon State House of Representatives
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HOUSE BILL 2006 - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Andersen and Wallen, and Honorable Members of the Committee:

My name is Erica Hass and I am a former database programmer and now a stay at home mom to a wonderful little boy. I am writing to express my support for HB 2006, which would raise the age for purchase and possession of a semiautomatic firearm to 21 years old.

In Oregon you cannot drink until you reach 21, you cannot purchase cannabis until you've reached 21, but yet you can buy a deadly weapon of war, a semiautomatic firearm, at the age of 18. If we as a state have deemed drinking alcohol and cannabis too much of a risk for 18 year olds, why are we allowing that same 18 year old to purchase a weapon that can kill fellow citizens and create harm to so many people, so quickly? We are not taking away any person's Second Amendment right to be able to own a gun, by enacting this law. 18 year olds can still hunt with their families. They can still enjoy guns, if and when they so choose, legally. We are simply removing these most dangerous weapons from the grasp of those people who we know belong to an age group that commits gun homicides at a rate 3 times higher than adults 21 and over. Please, help make all of us a little bit safer by passing this law. Honestly, it's the very least we can do.

I am grateful for your committee considering gun violence safety measures to keep Oregonians safe. In addition to Bill 2006 raising the age for assault rifles, I urge you to support Bill 2005 banning ghost guns, and Bill 2007, which would allow cities and municipalities to ban concealed carry in city and county public buildings and other spaces.

I urge you to advance this Bill out of committee and continue to support it until it becomes law.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Regards,
Erica Hass
Sherwood, OR