

Submitter: Stephanie Grove Cocchini

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure: HB2006

I support HB 2006 which would raise the age for the purchase and possession of semiautomatic weapons to 21.

Under current law, an 18-to-20-year-old in Oregon can buy assault weapons and other semiautomatic rifles—even though they cannot legally purchase handguns. Research shows that individuals aged 18-to-20 years old commit gun homicides at a rate nearly 3 times greater than adults 21-and-over. Assault weapons are used in mass shootings, including school shootings: the Uvalde shooter purchased two assault rifles shortly after his 18th birthday. How is it reasonable that someone who isn't old enough to buy a beer, because their brain isn't fully mature, can buy a lethal weapon? This bill also allows for the family tradition of hunting to still take place. Please pass this commonsense bill to raise the legal age to purchase an automatic rifle to 21 years old.