



**Testimony by Jenn Lynch  
In support of House Bills 2005, 2006 and 2007**

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Andersen and Wallen, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Jenn Lynch and I'm grateful for the opportunity to provide testimony as the founder and board chair of Oregon Alliance for Gun Safety. Since 2013, the Oregon Alliance for Gun Safety has worked to end gun violence in our communities through innovative policy, advocacy and community education.

The Oregon Alliance for Gun Safety supports House Bills 2005, 2006 and 2007.

During my 10-year tenure with this organization, we've made a lot of progress – but with nearly 1,000 gun sales per day in this state, we're not keeping up. Since I founded this organization, we've lived through shootings at Umpqua Community College, Reynolds High School and Safeway in Bend, and I, personally, have lived through my cousin – a father of four – being shot in the chest at a 4th of July parade in Highland Park, Illinois, by a shooter who purchased his assault rifle at age 19.

We have so far to go.

**HB 2005**

A ghost gun is a homemade, untraceable gun that can be purchased without a background check. Under current Oregon law, anyone can easily download, 3D-print and assemble a firearm.

This means people with dangerous histories, who cannot legally purchase firearms, can access untraceable guns, including all-plastic guns that can be carried through metal detectors and other security devices.

These guns are increasingly a weapon of choice for gun traffickers and people prohibited from possessing firearms. Passing HB 2005 will help save lives by prohibiting guns that can be purchased without proper oversight or background checks.

Just last year, a Salem man was arrested after police discovered a massive ghost gun manufacturing operation that he set up in his mom's basement. He was also charged with possessing a huge stock of fentanyl and heroin.

### HB 2006

The minimum age to buy a handgun from a federally licensed dealer is 21. However, Oregon law allows 18-to-20-year-olds to buy semiautomatic rifles. This means that 18 year olds in Oregon are able to purchase assault rifles — commonly used in mass shootings, including school shootings.

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. Teens and young people under age 21 should not have access to military-grade weapons that are made for battle.

I'll note that in my hometown of Bend, the Safeway shooter who wounded two people, killed two others and killed himself, was a 20-year-old carrying an AR-15-style assault weapon with a plan to shoot up the local high school.

Passing HB 2006 and raising the age at which a person may legally purchase firearms is a commonsense public safety measure that will help keep guns out of the wrong hands.

### HB 2007

Local governments know best what their communities need to stay safe from gun violence.

Courthouses and local government buildings are targets for politically motivated violence. They should not be forced to allow guns on their premises if they feel prohibiting them would improve safety.

HB 2007 would equip local governments more tools to keep their community safe by allowing them to prohibit guns in sensitive public areas, such as courthouses.

The Oregon Alliance for Gun Safety strongly urges you to vote "yes" on House Bills 2005, 2006 and 2007.