

Submitter: Rose Amendiares
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2006

Dear Oregon Lawmakers,

I am testifying in opposition to HB2006. As an adult under the age of 21 in the state of Oregon, I am expected to register for a national draft, pay taxes, and I am seen as an adult in the eyes of law and the justice system. I am expected to be fully fiscally and materially responsible for myself. Why then, am I not allowed to own a firearm? I am a transgender woman, and right now across the country, white supremacists and fascists are trying to exterminate transgender individuals from daily life. I should be allowed to arm myself to defend against these hate groups. The police do not protect minority communities. There are growing amounts of evidence, as cited by multiple studies, that transgender and racial minority individuals in the United States are disproportionately victimized by police violence. We should be allowed to arm ourselves to defend us from the threat of white supremacists and fascists attempting to take away our very way of life. I would also like to bring up the fact that the Oregon constitution states that all citizens should have the right to own firearms for the defense of themselves. This bill, if passed, would be unconstitutional, as many other circuit courts in other states have found. Raising the age to own a firearm is not how you solve gun violence. Gun violence is caused, at its root, by the pressures of capitalism. Food and housing insecurity drives people to commit crimes of need. Capitalism allows fascism to breed whilst politicians sit back and count the money they get from lobbyists. As an Oregonian, a humanitarian, and a transgender adult, I oppose HB2006.

- Rose Amendiares (she/her)