

## Oregon House Committee on Judiciary

### Testimony in support of HB 2006

I strongly urge you to pass HB 2006 to make our communities and state a safer place to live and raise families. I am a resident of N Portland and unfortunately my community has seen a large increase in gun violence recently. HB 2006 would raise the minimum age for purchasing long guns from 18 to 21, helping make our state safer.

There is near universal agreement that persons under 21 years of age should not be able to legally purchase alcoholic beverages, and for many of the same reasons those under 21 should not be able purchase a firearm. Young people are more prone to impulsive actions, and when these impulses involve a firearm death or injury often occur.

Persons under 21 years of age would still be able to use a firearm for hunting, but there is no reason for a young person to purchase or possess a weapon of war.

Several recent mass shootings (Bend Safeway, Parkland, Uvalde) we perpetrated by young men younger than 21. Making it illegal for those under 21 will help reduce the number of mass shootings in our state and nation.

We know that common sense gun laws mean fewer gun deaths. Evidence from other states and from here in Oregon proves these laws work.

Thank you,

Charles McKenna