

Submitter: Marcia Sinclair
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB348

Clarify but do not weaken Measure 114

Honorable members of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today. I am writing concerning Senate Bill 348. Just this week, we witnessed another horrific shooting in which three little nine-year-olds, their teacher and school staff were gunned down within their school building, a place of learning that should feel secure and safe. Our children face this terror and trauma daily.

Yet, while mass shootings receive the most publicity and make people feel threatened in every public setting, the sheer number of guns make our homes and our businesses make our families much less safe. Because of the sheer numbers of guns in this country and the lack of common-sense safeguards, gun violence recently surpassed car accidents as the leading cause of death for American children.

That's why I spent much of last summer gathering hundreds of signatures to place Measure 114 before voters. Alarmed and deeply troubled by the continued escalation of gun violence in our communities, I wanted to support a solution. One after another, the people I encountered felt the same. They couldn't wait to sign the petition because they felt so frustrated and helpless in the face of this seemingly intractable problem.

So, thank you for taking action. I appreciate your efforts to address gun violence in our state and to clarify the requirements of Measure 114. To address this we need data and better understanding coupled with bold action. As you engage in this process, please make sure SB 348 does not weaken Measure 114 as supported by Oregon Voters. Please clarify provisions and smooth implementation, but don't weaken Measure 114 in any way.

Thank you,
Marcia Sinclair