

Submitter: Walter Knutson 111
On Behalf Of: Lift Every Voice Oregon
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB348

As Chair of Lift Every Voice Oregon and a Chief Petitioner for Measure 114 I write to say first and foremost that we appreciate the implementation work of the Senate Judiciary Committee noting there are things we like about SB348 as well as several things we feel need to be changed so that Measure 114 is fully implemented as passed by Oregon Voters in November.

First it needs to be clear to the public that SB 348 is not replacing Measure 114 as some have perceived but rather is implementing Measure 114 which is now Oregon law. A preamble to this effect may be helpful.

Second, the 2 Year Exemption from the permit process being granted to purchasers of hunting guns relieves them from every aspect of the permitting process except for training. This is particularly concerning because it will often include first gun buyers in the 18-20 age range whose involvement in shootings has risen significantly in the last few years. The intent of Measure 114 as passed by the people of Oregon is that all must apply for a permit with all the safeguards that this entails.

Third and of great importance to BIPOC communities and law enforcement is the need to seek an Alternative Permit Agent/Application Office as written in Measure 114 under "designee". SB 348 has dropped this language and it needs to be included and more time needs to be devoted to working on this aspect of the permit process to make it as fair and equitable as possible.

Fourth, the investigation as to whether one is a danger to oneself, or others needs to be strengthened again as reflected in Measure 114.

We trust these changes can be made and that the appropriate time will be taken to make sure that Measure 114 is fully implemented as passed by the voters and that any changes will be to strengthen it and to make sure that the implementation of Measure 114 is equitable, effective and just for the sake of the public safety of our children and youth and for all who reside in this state.

Thank you for your vital work on behalf of all Oregonians,

Rev. Dr. W. J. Mark Knutson
Chair Lift Every Voice Oregon, Chief Petitioner, Measure 114
Senior Pastor, Augustana Lutheran Church, Portland