

Submitter: David Bellis-Squires
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

As a lifelong Oregonian and longtime democratic voter, this amendment is a poison pill which would deny Oregonians their constitutional rights, and enshrine firearms ownership as a privilege for the wealthy few.

First, the permit issue. By requiring paid permits, this places a fee on the exercising of a constitutional right. Just as a poll tax or a fee to vote has been recognized as unconstitutional, so must this proposed fee on firearm purchase. If permits were free to obtain this would be a different matter; however, this is not the case.

The permission/certification from police or sheriffs is likewise problematic. Time and again, individual members of local police and sheriff departments have proven themselves incapable of rendering unbiased, apolitical decisions. This stipulation in the measure means that someone otherwise qualified to receive a permit could be denied one at the discretion of law enforcement, for unjustified, arbitrary, personal reasons.

The requirement of class completion to obtain a permit, when no standardized classes or curricula exist is likewise a problem. Many classes (to obtain a CHL, for instance) require the use of a firearm to demonstrate proficiency. If completion of the class is required before someone can obtain a firearm, how can the class be completed?

The magazine limit is also an unfair tax on Oregonians. 30 rounds is the standard AR magazine capacity throughout the firearms industry. Today, at Sportsman's Warehouse, a standard 30-round PMAG was \$14. A 10-round magazine was \$39. Requiring firearm owners to spend over double what they otherwise would, to remain in compliance with an arbitrary law, is unfair and unjust.

None of this addresses the root causes of gun violence, or keeps firearms away from people who should not have access to them. It will simply make exercising a constitutional right more difficult, confusing, and expensive for law-abiding citizens. Passage of this measure will create additional layers of needless bureaucracy, and levy unconstitutional fees against economically disadvantaged Oregonians who wish to exercise constitutional rights. These are only a few reasons why this well-intentioned but ill-conceived bill must not pass.

Though I largely agree with and have historically supported politicians from the Democratic Party, anyone voting for this amendment will not only not receive my support, but I will tirelessly campaign for their political opponents. Many other Oregonians feel similarly about our constitutional rights, and we will never support

politicians who strive to disenfranchise us. Vote for the enshrinement of good-sense governing. Vote for the rights of all Oregonians. Vote NO on this measure.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.