

Submitter: Mark Freeman
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary Measure
Appointment or Topic: HB3075

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

As a resident of Oregon and a legal gun owner, I completely understand the intent this bill is going for. Gun violence is a problem in this state and generally around the country. The concern is that this bill does absolutely nothing to curb this violence. The people who follow the laws aren't committing the crimes and conversely, the people committing the crimes aren't buying the guns legally. There are two aspects to this that make it contrary to accepted rights within the United States.

1. Magazine capacity is and has been greater than 10 rounds for a long period of time. The thinking is that in most self-defense cases the average number of rounds fired is 8. That is with the current laws in place. How does reducing people's ability to purchase magazines with greater capacity impact this number? It doesn't. It does have an impact in cases where people may need more capacity, such as those of us who do competitive shooting, or in the rare cases of a self-defense situation where there may be an elongated period of direct conflict. The criminals in this case won't be worried about whether they are breaking the law by having larger magazines. The people defending themselves should have that same right. 47 other states agree.
2. Requiring the purchase of a permit to purchase a firearm is a violation of the 2nd amendment rights guaranteed by the US Constitution. People often quote the fact that driving is a privilege, and I completely agree. In that case, testing and paid permitting makes perfect sense. It isn't guaranteed by the constitution. Yet, the ability to acquire and own a firearm is. I fail to understand how anyone can not see this as a direct violation of our rights.

There are real problems in this state, especially in the Portland area. Addressing the root of the problem should be the priority, not further restricting the rights of Oregon residents.

With trust that you will all do the right thing,
Mark Freeman