

Submitter: Carol Manstrom

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

To The House Judiciary Committee:

My name is Carol Manstrom. I am writing to express my STRONG SUPPORT for HB 3075/3075-1. I am retired from a 26 year career in law enforcement, as a Parole and Probation Officer in Lane County. I carried a firearm, every day, as part of my job. And, I am a gun owner. I support the 2nd Amendment. However, the 2nd Amendment does NOT absolve gun owners of lax, careless, unknowledgeable or incompetent behavior! I helped get Measure 114 on the ballot, and I voted for it. Measure 114 was voted into Oregon law for the purpose of improving firearm safety in Oregon. Measure 114 will increase the knowledge, competency and responsibility of gun purchasers. As a Parole and Probation Officer, I was required to complete hundreds of hours of training, including firearms training. The title of this training is "Deadly Force Training." There is a reason why such a strong word -- "Deadly" -- is used in the title of that training -- the reason is, guns are lethal! During my training, the primary emphasis was SAFETY! As a provision of Measure 114, gun purchasers will be required to complete a basic firearms training course, which will include a review of safe practices regarding use, transportation and storage of firearms. This is a reasonable and common sense requirement for persons who are purchasing a gun. In 2017, on Valentine's Day, my precious teenage son, Will, tragically died by firearm suicide. Will was a Senior in high school at that time, looking forward to attending Oregon State University with a major in Engineering. On the night that Will died, he was experiencing a severe mental health crisis, AND, there was a fully loaded, unsecured and easily accessible handgun in the house where Will was staying. Will's death is a fatal example of a basic firearm safety practice that was breached by a gun owner. Measure 114 will save lives in Oregon by teaching and reviewing firearm safety when a gun is being purchased. And, Measure 114 also insures that the firearm training curriculum will discuss "the impact of homicide and suicide on families, communities and the country as a whole." I am respectfully requesting that you please pass HB 3075/3075-1 to make sure Measure 114 goes into effect quickly and smoothly. Thank you. Carol Manstrom