

Submitter: Antonio Vargas
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee, I am writing to express my opposition to House Bill 3075, which modifies the firearm permit provisions of Ballot Measure 114 (2022). While I recognize the goal of improving public safety, I believe this bill places undue burdens on law-abiding citizens, erodes constitutional protections, and misses the mark on addressing gun violence effectively. First, HB3075 extends the permit issuance timeline from 30 to 60 days and raises application fees. These changes disproportionately impact Oregonians with limited access to permit agents and low-income individuals who may find the increased costs a barrier to exercising their Second Amendment rights. Law-abiding citizens should not face additional obstacles to their constitutional freedoms. Additionally, I am deeply concerned about the magazine capacity restrictions upheld through Ballot Measure 114 and reinforced by HB3075. Limiting magazines to 10 rounds undermines self-defense capabilities for law-abiding gun owners, particularly in rural areas and less affluent urban areas where law enforcement response times can be delayed. Standard-capacity magazines—often exceeding 10 rounds—are commonly used for lawful purposes, and there’s little evidence that such restrictions reduce crime, as criminals routinely ignore these laws. Furthermore, the bill’s expansion of permit requirements and exemptions—delaying full implementation until 2026 or 2028 for certain transfers—creates a confusing patchwork of rules. This risks inconsistent enforcement and could penalize responsible gun owners for unintentional violations. Clear, fair, and consistent laws would better serve Oregonians. Finally, HB3075 focuses on restricting legal firearm ownership rather than tackling illegal gun use or investing in mental health and community safety programs. Most gun violence stems from socioeconomic factors and illicit firearms, not from those who legally purchased their firearms and went through the existing background checks. I urge the committee to prioritize solutions that address these root causes. I support reasonable safety measures, but HB3075 oversteps by punishing the responsible instead of protecting the public. I respectfully ask you to vote no and explore alternatives that respect both rights and safety. I sincerely thank you for your consideration.