

Submitter: Alexa Pines

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

I am a progressive woman and member of the queer community, and I oppose this bill that interferes with my right and ability to protect myself. Even in this great state with its progressive havens, I am frequently confronted by the vitriol of violent and hateful men; many who have been emboldened by the current POTUS and his cabinet. Myself and many other progressive women and members of the LGBTQ+ community are very concerned about the hateful anti-women and anti-LGBTQ+ rhetoric and violent actions we have seen taking place around the country, including in our own state of Oregon. An increasing number of us have taken responsible steps to defend ourselves, and those steps have already been hampered by laws such as this one that do nothing to curb actual gun violence perpetrated by criminals, but only make it more difficult for law-abiding people like me, someone who would never use my firearm in any situation that did not involve my own defense, to exercise my right. For example, the firearm that I saved for and purchased for self-defense holds more than 10 rounds, and this is standard among the majority of modern defensive firearms; especially those that are easy for women and smaller people to shoot (smaller, easier to shoot calibers typically means more rounds).

A better move that would receive bipartisan support would be for the State of Oregon to subsidize the purchase of quality gun safes for home use, as well as fund firearms education and safety classes made freely available to the public. The 2nd Amendment and the right to self-defense isn't just for Republican men. It is for all Oregonians as enshrined in our State's Constitution and that increasingly includes progressive, queer women like myself.

Thank you.