

Submitter: Christian Bennett
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 opposition to House Bill 3075 (HB3075). I believe HB3075 has multiple faults and will not serve in the best interests of all Oregonians. HB3075 increases the burden of Oregonians to exercise a right protected by both our State and Federal constitution. This burden is more significant with lower income Oregonians where the additional cost associated with the Permit to Purchase and associated training (plus arguably the time required to complete the training and permitting process) serves as an artificial barrier to entry not felt so severely by Oregonians with more financial resources. HB3075 also poorly defines the criteria by which a "permitting agent" can reject an applicant. Specifically Section 4 (E) where the permitting agent is given a wide sweeping authority to deny Oregonians a permit to purchase without requiring specific, articulable criteria by which the permitting agent is to consider the merit of the application. For instance if a permitting agent has a bias against any specific group of people and uses that bias to deny a permit to purchase citing that person is an unspecified danger to the community, HB3075 broadly would not provide a framework to prevent this type of discrimination and would require a costly and time intensive lawsuit to rectify. Additionally, HB3075 retroactively criminalizes possession of magazines holding greater than 10 rounds of ammunition purchased after December 8, 2022. Countless thousands of Oregonians legally exercising their right to keep and bear arms will become criminals for following the exact letter of the law at the time of purchase. There are many more specific elements of HB3075 that are contrary to the best interests of Oregonians and multiple specific elements that are likely contrary to established case law in state and federal courts. We need equal protection and equal rights for all Oregonians, we do not need HB3075.