

I am writing this in opposition of 114 and any bill in its likeness. The right of the people to defend themselves is a right given to everyone republican or democrat and it shall not be infringed. 114 and like house bills are not in any way helpful to preventing crime, accidents or suicide and only hurt law abiding citizens and our right to bear arms. Taking away rights only to sell it back to the people under the guise it will curb violence is wrong, deceitful and unconstitutional. Poor leadership and underfunded law enforcement have created the crime we have. Limiting the rights of firearm ownership is another poor decision in an attempt to stop crime. Limiting the type of firearms and magazine size does nothing but make it harder for the people to defend themselves against criminals that use extended magazines, semiautomatic weapons and even firearms with selective switches combined with two or more assailants tipping the scales in even more favor of criminals and their activities. These lawless people are not acquiring these firearms through legal routes and even from beyond the borders of Oregon. They know that people who are disarmed and disadvantaged are easy targets. States with similar laws like California and Washington run rampant with large, organized violent crime, shootings and gang activity. The people cannot effectively defend themselves because they do not have the means and in most cases will face legal consequences defending their lives, livelihood and property. Portland and Salem should not decide for the rest of Oregon and not decide what rights we can or cannot have. I hope our leadership can understand what is happening is wrong and unconstitutional. Oregon should remain free and not chip away at the rights we have been giving by powers greater than themselves.