

Submitter: Susanne Esch
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

I would like to begin my testimony opposing HB3075 by reading from our Oregon State Constitution. According to Oregon's Bill of Rights: Section 27. Right to bear arms; military subordinate to civil power. The people shall have the right to bear arms for the defense [sic] of themselves, and the State, but the Military shall be kept in strict subordination to the civil power[.]

Our state constitution clearly states that the people have the right to bear arms. There is no provision within it to require a permit, licensure or even background checks. Although I do support background checks, this bill would require a second background check through OSP in addition to a federal background check which is now solidly in place. What is the purpose of an additional background check other than to further delay the process? The most nonsensical stipulation of this bill is to require those requesting a permit to undergo a competency test in loading, unloading, and firing that weapon and that this is to be done at a county Sherriff's facilities that the gun owner resides in. Many rural areas of Oregon, do not have indoor ranges to carry this out. Can you imagine going to your local Sherriff's office and doing this, where, there is no safe area discharge a weapon. Who thought that was a good idea? I'm pretty sure our County Sheriffs do not.

Considering the unconstitutional nature of this bill, not just federally, but also against our state's constitution this bill will ultimately fail in the courts, especially once it reaches the US Supreme Court. Perhaps you should ask yourself who benefits from pushing unconstitutional laws. Well, the lawyers you hire with tax payers' funds are certainly laughing all the way to the bank while cashing their checks. It is my understanding that so far, over \$10 million tax payer funds have been spent to defend this unconstitutional law. Perhaps after retiring from nursing, 10 years ago, I should have gone to law school and make bank too.

As legislators did you all not take an oath to uphold the constitution? Why then would continue to push unconstitutional laws? This is just another way to waste tax payer \$ and further hamstring law abiding gun owners, gun stores and our already stretched thin LEOs. Instead, you should be focusing on getting criminals off the streets, prosecuting them, and keeping the citizens of this state safe. All I have seen from this legislative body for decades is a concerted effort by you to destroy the rights, safety, economy, businesses, farming industry and the well-being of the citizens of this once beautiful state. It leaves me wondering why you would do such a thing and so should all Oregonians.