

March 17th, 2025

Re: Testimony in support of House Bill 3075

Dear Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallen, and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Hannah Alzgal and I serve as the Housing Justice and Community Safety Policy Coordinator for Unite Oregon. I am writing to urge your support for House Bill 3075. Oregonians passed this law over two years ago because we know it will save lives. The research is clear, over a 10-year period, Measure 114 is projected to save more than **1,000 lives** in Oregon. This is one of the strongest and most effective gun tragedy prevention measures in the country, and it's critical that it goes into effect without further delay.

At Unite Oregon's annual action summit, our members overwhelmingly voiced concerns about the need to reimagine community safety from the traditional criminal justice system. A first step towards reimagining community safety is being proactive in our approach to preventing violence. HB 3075 does just that.

Gun tragedies continue to devastate Oregon communities. In 2023 alone, we lost **650 Oregonians** to firearm suicides, community violence, and mass shootings. Oregon's rural and veteran suicide rates are **double the national average**. Shootings and homicides in Portland and Salem have more than **doubled since 2018**. Oregon also has the **5th highest rate of gun deaths for Black men** in the country. These numbers are not just statistics — they represent lives lost, families shattered, and communities left grieving.

Measure 114 is a critical tool to reverse these disturbing trends. Oregonians voted for this law because we know it will save lives. Now it's up to you to ensure the state has the resources and infrastructure to support a smooth implementation. The stakes are too high, and the cost of inaction is measured in lives lost.

I want to see Measure 114 go into effect as soon as possible. Please ensure the state has the resources and ability to support a smooth implementation.

Passing HB 3075 will make our communities safer places to live, work, learn and play. I urge you to vote yes.

Sincerely,

Hannah Alzgal

Unite Oregon Housing Justice and Community Safety Policy Coordinator