

Submitter: Shannon Shahan  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

My name is Shannon, and I'm writing to voice my opposition to HB 3075. I'm not just speaking for myself but for countless women who rely on their right to self-defense in a world where our safety is too often at risk.

I am an Oregon native and have spent my entire life around firearms. As an adult I have taken hundreds of hours of training and spent thousands of my own dollars learning everything from basic safety to ground fighting techniques with a firearm. While my statement above may seem in favor of a permit to purchase a firearm, it's exactly opposite of that. This is because I did not take these classes alone. They were all taken alongside 100's of other firearm owners, all trying to better themselves with their preferred firearm. We are already doing more than your permit would require.

As a woman, I take these classes so I can better defend myself against any attacker. I know firsthand the fear of walking alone at night, the unease of a stranger lingering too close, or the terror of a threat that law enforcement can't reach in time. For many of us, a firearm isn't just a tool—it's an equalizer. It gives us a fighting chance against attackers who are often bigger, stronger, or armed themselves. Forcing myself or the other 1.5 million adult women in this state to wait for an appointment to take a "class", take the "class", wait for two background checks and wait for the regulating authority to issue the permit (after paying a fee) puts us at risk. It could ultimately put our children and families at risk.

The vast majority of legal firearms owners do not commit crimes. With 0.014% of guns (approximately 72,448 out of 500 million) involved in crimes in 2024. In 2014, violent crime hit a 44-year low, and murder reached an all-time low, even as gun ownership and right-to-carry states increased. 400,000 life-threatening violent crimes are prevented annually by firearms. Law abiding gun owners should not be this states focus.

Our current background check system works. Permits that involve fees, additional background checks, and training courses, pose challenges. Women facing domestic violence, for example, might need quick access to a firearm for self-defense. A permitting process could delay that access, potentially leaving them vulnerable during a critical time. For lower-income people, the financial burden is a big factor. For someone earning minimum wage, the permit fee is a chunk of income. Background check delays could also mean missing work for appointments, adding indirect costs. If permits deter legal ownership more for these groups than others, it could leave them disproportionately disarmed compared to wealthier, often male, demographics who can afford the time and money.

I also find it very disingenuous to modify a law that is still being litigated. Measure 114 has not even been allowed to go into effect due to questions about it's

constitutionality, but our legislators are attempting to modify it. I feel like there are more important things you could be using your time (and my tax dollars) for.

Sincerely,  
Shannon Shahan – La Pine, Oregon