

Submitter: Derek Jackson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am a progressive. I am also a combat veteran who honorably served this country as a Abrams crewmember in Iraq (2003-2008) who loves the state of OR and what it stands for. I stand for the rights of LGBTQ+, women, trans, POC, immigrants, and other minorities whose right to exist peaceably in this country is currently under threat by our federal government, some state governments, and emboldened white supremacist and Nazi groups across our country. I absolutely oppose this bill and similar efforts that curtail the rights of the common working-class citizen to utilize their 2nd Amendment rights.

If you want to talk about measures that would help and get bipartisan support without trampling the rights of ordinary Oregonians to defend themselves, let's talk funding for free firearms safety and education classes made available to the public. Let's talk tax breaks and subsidies that incentivize the purchase of gun safes for peoples homes.

Ronald Reagan would frankly be proud of this bill and Measure 114. It's the same type of legislation his Republican cabinet passed to prevent POC from defending themselves against a violently racist police force in CA. The department that denied Martin Luther King Jr's application for a concealed carry permit following the bombing of his home would also be proud. It's the same type of legislation that allowed them to leave the civil rights leader defenseless. Yet you would support a measure that gives the police forces we recently defunded due to racism, profiling, militancy and human rights abuses among their ranks the final word on who (and who doesn't) get to own and carry a firearm?

Progressives need to realize that the 2nd Amendment isn't just for Republicans, it's for them as well. More progressives are becoming gun owners now than ever before. Additionally, many Republicans are single-issue voters on the 2nd Amendment. Democrats would likely be shocked at how quickly many Republicans would switch sides if they dropped their performative and uninformed positions against firearms ownership and instead pushed for state-funded safety awareness, education, training, and safe storage incentives that would benefit all Oregonians.

Very Respectfully,

Derek James Jackson