

Submitter: Rj Rs
On Behalf Of: 31
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to HB3075 and Ballot Measure 114, which poses a significant threat to the rights and freedoms of law-abiding citizens in Oregon. This measure, under the guise of enhancing public safety, introduces extreme and unconstitutional restrictions on firearm ownership and use.

Permit-to-Purchase Requirement: Ballot Measure 114 mandates that individuals obtain a permit to purchase or transfer any firearm. This requirement imposes an onerous and costly process on prospective gun owners. A Concealed Handgun License or Hunter Safety Certification does not qualify as a permit. To obtain a permit, applicants must provide extensive personal information, pass a background check, and complete a law enforcement firearms training course, which includes both classroom and live-fire training. The costs for these courses are uncapped, potentially making them prohibitively expensive. Moreover, the limited availability of shooting ranges in Oregon further complicates the process. First-time firearm owners face a paradox: they must pass a training course to obtain a permit, but cannot purchase a firearm to complete the course without the permit. This creates an insurmountable barrier for many, effectively denying them their Second Amendment rights.

Government Registry of Firearm Owners: The measure requires law enforcement to maintain an electronic, searchable database of all permits issued, which must be reported annually and could be disclosed to the public. This registry includes sensitive personal information, raising significant privacy concerns. The Supreme Court has ruled that individuals prohibited from possessing firearms cannot be required to register them, as it violates their Fifth Amendment rights. Yet, Measure 114 imposes a similar requirement on law-abiding citizens, infringing on their privacy and potentially exposing them to security risks.

Unconstitutional Magazine Ban: Ballot Measure 114 bans ammunition magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds, a restriction currently being challenged in court by the NRA in states like California and New Jersey. This ban extends to fixed and detachable magazines, affecting a wide range of firearms, including shotguns commonly used for home defense and hunting. The measure limits the use of existing magazines over 10 rounds to personal property, shooting ranges, or hunting, and requires them to be stored separately from firearms during transport. This not only infringes on the right to self-defense but also imposes impractical restrictions on lawful gun owners. Law enforcement and military personnel are only exempted for service firearms during official duties, leaving their personal firearms subject to the same limitations.

Furthermore, there is no affirmative defense for magazines owned before the measure's effective date, and the measure references a non-existent Oregon statute (ORS 166.055), indicating a lack of legislative clarity that would require correction.

In conclusion, HB 3075 and Ballot Measure 114 represent extreme and unconstitutional initiatives that infringe upon the rights of responsible gun owners, invade personal privacy, and impose undue burdens on those seeking to exercise their Second Amendment rights. These measures disadvantage law-abiding citizens of Oregon, while potentially giving criminals the upper hand. By putting everyone at risk and stripping individuals of their right to protect themselves and their families, these proposals negatively impact single parents, people of color, Democrats, Republicans, and everyone in between. If enacted, they would erode the constitutional rights of all Oregonians. HB 3075 and Measure 114 must be rejected. The people of Oregon deserve better, and our children deserve a safer future. Oregon's government should prioritize supporting its citizens, not inadvertently aiding criminals. It is imperative to end this now and shut down HB 3075 and Measure 114.
Respectful