

Chair Kropf and Committee Members, my name is Melissa Cole, and I am from Klamath Falls, OR.

I stand before you today in **strong opposition** to HB 3075, a bill that is not only **constitutionally questionable** but also disproportionately harmful to low-income and minority communities. As a **Hispanic woman** who has experienced poverty firsthand, I know what it means to struggle.

Ask yourself - **How will this bill impact low-income Oregonians?** The answer is clear—it will hit those already struggling the hardest.

Supporters of HB 3075 may claim it comes from a place of good intentions. But **intentions do not override impact**. This bill does nothing to **address the root causes of violence**. Instead, it **targets law-abiding citizens** – and will impact those in minority and low-income communities, who already face systemic barriers. Criminals do not apply for weapons permits. **This bill will not stop them—but it will make it harder for responsible citizens to defend themselves. And it will turn law abiding citizens, who have absolutely no criminal record/not even a speeding ticket, into criminals for possessing large capacity magazines.**

Ask yourself – why might a law-abiding citizen carry a weapon with magazine capacity greater than 10 rounds?

1. **Self-defense:** In high stress situations accuracy can decrease and higher capacity magazines provide more chances to neutralize a threat.
2. **Multiple attackers** – criminals don't always act alone, requiring more rounds to defend oneself.
3. **Reduces the need to reload.**

I have personally been stalked by a mountain lion while bow hunting; and that same fall – in the same unit two mountain lions charged a hunter who had to draw their pistol to protect themselves.

I ask you today: **Will you stand with law-abiding Oregonians like me, who have exercised our rights responsibly for decades? Or will you support a policy that unfairly burdens the poor, the marginalized, and the law-abiding citizen while doing nothing to prevent crime?**

For the sake of fairness, for the sake of justice, and for the sake of all **law-abiding Oregonians**, I urge you to **reject HB 3075**.

Thank you,

Melissa Cole