

Submitter: Robert Hardesty
On Behalf Of:
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Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

If the goal of this bill is safety than it would make sense to have the classes required to purchase a firearm convenient and publicly funded. Perhaps the classes could be offered at our community colleges and in our public schools. As proposed, this bill unnecessarily excludes citizens attempting to exercise their right to keep and bear arms by requiring prohibitive fees, classes, and permits. The prohibitive function of this class and permit system will disenfranchise Oregonians. If enacted this law will be no better than the shameful "poll taxes" that were used to limit voting rights.

If we are to require classes and background checks in order for law abiding citizens to exercise their rights then why add further limitations such as magazine capacity? We don't impose an arbitrary restriction on the number of bullets a gun has in it for those we pay to protect us, so there must be value for having more capacity in the role of defense.

Life is valuable and everyone deserves equal protection regardless of their job or how much money they have. Why would someone paying to take classes and paying to have background checks done and paying to get permits have limitations put on them that are not placed on those who are being paid to do these things? It would seem this bill will further stratify society in regard to legal self defense: those who can't afford it, those who can afford it, and those employed by the government.

Our governance is an intricate system of checks and balances. Crucial to this system are our individual rights, so that government remains in service to the people. This legislation would unduly diminish the rights of Oregonians in the name of safety but ultimately in service to totalitarianism. If anyone should think there is good in this because their side of the political coin is momentarily in control I urge you to beware of the next king.