

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3075

I submitted my written testimony in opposition to this bill yesterday, however I would like to amend that testimony by adding some suggestions for actions that may help reduce school-related gun violence without making the majority of modern pistols illegal in the state of OR:

(1) Raise the legal age for purchase of a centerfire semiautomatic rifle from 18 to 21. Why is the AR-15 rifle platform the most likely used weapon in school shootings? Because one can legally purchase an AR-15 at age 18, but cannot legally purchase a pistol or other handgun until age 21. This loophole in Federal Law allows high-school aged teens to have easy access to weapons. Under this proposal, hunting rifles (with manually-actuated bolt actions) and rimfire rifles would remain legally purchasable at age 18.

(2) Decrease the difficulties in obtaining treatment for ADHD, particularly stimulant-based ADHD medication. There are many clinical studies and meta-analyses that show proper medication for ADHD decreases impulsive behavior and criminality in young adults. Access to ADHD medication has been consistently under attack by the DEA and is further endangered by RFK Jr., the anti-science, anti-psychiatry lunatic currently in charge of HHS.

(3) Investment in community mental health clinics. Mental health providers are rare in OR and most have long wait-lists, especially in rural counties. Increased state funding for providers, particularly in community mental health clinic settings, may help prevent providers from abandoning their practice due to limited reimbursement from Medicaid and Private Insurance.