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Submitter: Matthew W Warren
On Behalf Of: Myself
Committee: Judiciary Committee
Measure: HB 3075-1, HB 3075

I am Matthew W Warren and I recently retired from the Oregon Army National Guard with the rank of Sergeant First Class with over 38 years of service. During this service I have held numerous positions; infantry platoon sergeant, combat engineer, supply sergeant, retirement administrator and unit clerk, with many other additional duties assigned. In addition to these duty positions, I have received individual training with many weapons and weapon systems available to the Army National Guard. These include, but are not limited to; pistols, rifles, automatic weapons and missile systems. It was expected for me to be able to train subordinates in those same platforms. I am also currently trained as a National Rifle Association certified Range Safety Officer, which I have maintained my certification for over five years.

I write this submission on my own behalf as husband, father of adult children and grandfather, where I am the primary protector. In addition, I am a firearm owner that realizes the best tool for the defense of myself and those I cherish is a firearm. I can no longer sit idly by while elected officials take away my ability to defend my family is eroded away until nothing is left. These same officials which are protected by law enforcement and work with the support of armed personnel with scanners and metal detectors.

Large Capacity Magazines

These are truly standard capacity magazines. This misnomer will legally reduce my ability to defend my family. Regardless whether it falls under the category of arms, it is vital to my ability and comes standard with all modern firearms. This legislation carves out exceptions for law enforcement and my former profession, but penalizes me? Clearly, it is understood that it is requirement for a duty officer.

This dubiously worded description would nearly encompass every detachable magazine in existence. Perhaps this is the intent of this proposed legislation, as nearly every magazine could be modified into greater capacity. The impossibility of enforcement makes the burden fall on the possessor to prove the magazine was obtained before some date set in the past. As the component of the firearm which is most likely to fail, it is also the most replaced part of the firearm. Clearly, the drafters of this bill have never been on a range, dropped a magazine and rendered it no longer usable. As someone who has operated belt-fed weapons, this restriction only serves those who will chose to violate this law.

Pre-Purchase requirements

Ballot Measure 114 sought to instill a cost of \$65 for the privilege of being able to purchase a firearm. Aside from the restriction on my right, the new proposed cost of \$150 will create a sizable burden to those that are not well off financially. This barrier to purchase will add to the cost of the firearm for someone with limited means. This will create a tiered system that punishes the poor and marginalized while someone with the means will not find this burden prohibitive.

Another requirement of this bill will be a requirement for training. In spite of the extensive time invested in my own life, including receipt of an Oregon Concealed Handgun License (which is itself a background check) nothing in this proposed law gives me credit for my knowledge. Allowance for an active duty discharge document, DD214, rarely identifies by name a small task like pistol training. A DD214 does not reflect the annual requirement to qualify with the Soldier's assigned weapon. This requirement means I would have to seek some form of training provided by an outside agency. Since the new "permit" has an expiration of five years and there is a requirement for the training to be within five years, this training would have to be repeated every time a person sought to renew the permit. This adds to the costs associated with an individual right. One final note, any denial of the permit, is required to be filed in the petitioner's local district court. This means that a small clerical error will be forced upon the petitioner into the schedule of the district court. The waiting period would potentially be months of denial of the petitioner's right.

Background Checks

As one who has experienced the long delays of a background check, I must protest this new hurdle in firearms purchasing. I have experienced delays of over two weeks just waiting for the completion of the check. Funds spent enforcing this new legislation would be better spent on the Oregon State Police to facilitate quicker and more accurate responses. As an Oregonian, I have already submitted to a background check for any firearm I might desire, another for my Concealed Handgun License, extensive background checks for security clearance in the military and now face yet another repeated check just for permission to get another background check.

Another issue in the background checks, relates to a successful receipt of an authorization number (to receive a firearm), there exists a mere 24 hour window to complete the transaction. A simple late receipt of this number on a Friday, instead of completing the transaction, means a repeat of the process come Monday morning. The time period has expired.

Challenges to Legality

Section 22 requires any challenges to this legislation to be done in Marion County. This excludes any place of business in the rest of the 35 counties of Oregon. This unfair clause completely disregards the damages done by this law in the location where it has taken place. Oregon is a large geographically represented state. This places an unfair and unreasonable burden on local residents. State legislators must meet in Salem, Oregon, but a local resident may find the distance daunting. My residence is in Multnomah County, the only advantage of this section is to the

advantage of the State over the injured party. Voters in rural Oregon are already feeling marginalized. This section gives the voters of Marion County greater influence over the already excluded residents of rural Oregon.

Conclusion

As an Oregonian and American Citizen, I both opposed this proposed legislation in person and now in writing. Whether I feel this will ultimately be found to be both unconstitutional in Oregon and in the United States remains to be revealed. In the meantime, many of the businesses I choose to be a patron of currently are walking the thin line of staying in business. Already there are significant burdens in the economy of high inflation and grandiose legislation further restricting their operations. These hard earned relationships mean fewer opportunities and lost jobs in local economies that are already greatly impacted.

It is my feeling that the legislators proposing this new law are unconcerned with the impacts this will truly have upon Oregonians. In Section 2 it states "shall be known as the Reduction of Gun Violence Act." This bill does nothing of the sort. It is a violation of all Oregonians and a contravention of a primary right. As I stated in person, the greatest minority is the individual. This legislation is but one stop on the path to disarming all Oregon citizens and a path that leads always, to tyranny.

Thank you for your attention in this matter,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew W Warren". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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