

Submitter: Patricia Chandler
On Behalf Of: HB 3075-1
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

I am writing in support of HB 3075-1. Please pass the bill out of committee so that as soon as the stay is lifted, Measure 114 can be implemented. It was passed by initiative to reduce gun violence.

Studies show that for the states that have instituted permits to purchase, homicides are reduced and suicides lessened. Lives are saved.

In 1998 I was part of the PostTraumatic Stress Disorder team at the Portland VAMC. We were returning from a training in Ashland when our clinic director called us and said that we were being redirected to Springfield High School at the request of their Principal.

We arrived within an hour to the school, and were met by traumatized staff, who oriented us. There were bullet holes in the cafeteria walls. Two students were killed and 25 were wounded. There would have been more, if the shooter hadn't had to stop to reload. At that time, he was tackled by student athletes and his weapon taken away from him,

There were streaks of blood on the floor that the janitor had tried to clean up. There was a cafeteria filled with traumatized students.

The shooter was 15 years old. His parents had bought him the rifle he used. This was in effect a "straw purchase", that led to his parent's deaths the night before. If he'd had to apply for a permit.. these tragic shootings and infinite suffering they caused would not of occurred.

I urge you to start saving lives by getting the bill out of your committee.

Most sincerely,
Patricia Chandler, MA, LPC, Retired VAMC