

Submitter: GABRIEL SLEEPER

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

Testimony Against Oregon HB 3075 and HB 3075-1

Submitted to the Oregon House Committee on Judiciary

Date: March 19, 2025

Honorable Members of the House Committee on Judiciary,

I am writing to formally oppose Oregon House Bill 3075 (HB 3075) and its amended version, HB 3075-1, which alter the firearm permit requirements established by Ballot Measure 114. While I understand the intention to improve public safety, I strongly believe that this legislation does not accomplish that goal. Instead, it burdens law-abiding Oregonians unnecessarily. Below, I present my concerns for your review.

**Lack of Evidence Supporting Effectiveness:** There is no credible evidence suggesting that HB 3075 will result in fewer deaths or reduce gun violence. The proposed changes—such as extending permit processing from 30 to 60 days, doubling fees to \$150, and creating additional bureaucratic barriers—lack scientific backing showing their effectiveness in reducing gun violence. Public safety measures should be based on solid evidence. In the absence of proof, this bill risks punishing lawful citizens while failing to address the true threats to public safety.

**Impact on Responsible Gun Owners:** The bill overlooks the important role of responsible gun owners in preventing violent crime. According to studies by organizations like the National Research Council, firearms are used defensively between 500,000 and 3 million times annually in the U.S. In Oregon, responsible gun owners have prevented numerous violent acts. However, HB 3075 introduces delays and higher costs, potentially preventing citizens from protecting themselves and their communities. For example, a domestic violence victim who needs immediate protection could face a 60-day delay, leaving them exposed to danger when every moment counts.

**Criminals Don't follow laws:** Criminals do not acquire firearms legally rendering HB 3075's focus on regulating lawful permit holders ineffective. Data consistently shows that firearms used in crimes are often obtained through illegal channels, such as theft, not through the lawful means this bill aims to regulate. By targeting responsible gun owners, HB 3075 misses the mark and fails to address the root causes of violence, such as poverty and mental health issues.

**Second Amendment Concerns:** HB 3075 raises significant concerns about the infringement of Second Amendment rights. The U.S. Supreme Court's Bruen decision (2022) confirmed that any restrictive permitting systems must be aligned with historical practices. By increasing fees and extending waiting periods, the bill transforms a constitutional right into a privilege for the wealthy disproportionately impacting rural and lower-income Oregonians. Furthermore, the bill and its amendment place law-abiding citizens, at a disadvantage when attempting to secure

permits for self-defense. The provision in HB 3075-1, requiring that any legal challenges to this Act must be filed in the Marion County Circuit Court, imposes an additional burden on citizens. This amendment seems to unreasonably use the Legislative Branch to influence the Judicial Branch, which undermines the separation of powers designed to prevent any branch from accumulating excessive power.

Concerns About the Emergency Clause: The bill's emergency clause raises serious concerns. By taking effect immediately upon the Governor's signature, it bypasses public referendum and judicial. This approach undermines democratic processes and forces citizens to restart expensive legal challenges to defend their rights. This contradiction weakens the justification for the bill's implementation

Practical Impact on Law Enforcement: consequences of HB 3075 could place a strain on law enforcement and leave citizens vulnerable With the added burden of processing permits and no funding to support this, agencies already dealing with limited resources could face backlogs This could result in delays in granting firearms, putting citizens in danger.

Thank you for your time.