

Submitter: Jody McComas
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076

My name is Jody McComas, I grew up in Central Oregon and now live in Portland, OR. I've been a volunteer with Moms Demand Action for several years now.

I grew up with guns in my home and hunting was a way of life. It was normal and I never questioned gun ownership or gun laws until I was sitting in my car at college listening to the report of the shooting at Thurston High School in Eugene, not far down the road from where I was. School shootings have now become the norm for our country and my children have grown up doing active shooter drills. I'll never forget the fear in my 1st grade son's eyes when he came home afraid of a shooter at school after their first drill. Just this past Thursday, my daughters college was put on lockdown because of a threat of an active shooter. It turned out to be a hoax and thankfully no one was hurt physically, but emotionally, is a different story. Even the perceived threat of an active shooter is traumatizing.

I will never accept that this is normal and neither should you. We have let our children down by not enacting stronger common sense gun laws to keep them and our communities safe. Myself and many friends have lost people we know and love to gun suicide. Whether privately in families or large scale in communities, we are losing people we love and many of these could be prevented.

Thanks to the work of Moms Demand Action and Students Demand Action volunteers from across our state, Oregon has become a leader in the fight to end gun violence. Yet there is still work to be done. I'm here today to push for the implementation of measure 114, ban rapid fire devices, and crack down on gun dealers that fail to keep us safe.

Please do your part now to make sure this comes to fruition.