

March 27, 2025

TO: Senate Committee On Judiciary
FROM: Debbie Lindgren
SUBJECT: Support for SB 243

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Debbie Lindgren and I am a retired educator, parent of two daughters and a lifetime Oregonian. Thank you for the opportunity to give written testimony in support of SB 243.

My eldest daughter worked at Washington Square Mall following college. I was always scared she might be hurt by gun violence because it happened at Clackamas Town Center in 2012. I was relieved she got a different job in downtown Portland. I naively thought she would be more safe. Then the unthinkable happened. A co-worker was shot to death by a fellow employee at her work. The shooter was found later at a nearby parking garage committing gun suicide as the police approached his car. A quick mention on the local news occurred. The floor at my daughter's work was closed for weeks as people were reassigned and offices were moved. All evidence of the shooting was erased except from the minds of the employees. My daughter and other employees were "uninjured." Life went on.

Shortly after, I became an advocate for gun violence prevention with Moms Demand Action. This is when I learned action is a choice. We must do better for the sake of our communities and for our families to decrease the ripple effects of gun violence. You never know when your community or your family will be affected.

Please take thoughtful action with SB 243. You have an opportunity to protect the lives of Oregonians with a mandatory 72-hour waiting period before any firearm purchase, raise the age to purchase and possess semi automatic rifles to 21, while still allowing 18 - 21 year olds to purchase and possess certain firearms for hunting and recreation, ban the sale and possession of rapid fire devices like bump stocks and Glock switches and authorize the governing bodies of certain public entities that own or control public buildings to adopt a policy, ordinance or regulation limiting concealed handgun licensees from possessing a firearm in a public building.

Be bold this legislative session. Support SB 243 to protect the lives of Oregonians from gun violence.

Debbie Lindgren

