

Submitter: Tanya Beckman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

I fully support SB 243.

I support raising the age to buy assault weapons to 21, because I know that 18-20 year-olds commit a disproportionate number of gun related homicides. There is no reason that a civilian of this age needs to own an assault weapon. They would still be able to purchase firearms for hunting and recreation, but assault weapons are not necessary for that activity.

I support this bill because I believe those posing a danger to themselves or others should be given time to cool off before obtaining a weapon. Oregon has one of the country's highest firearm suicide rates – 77% of gun deaths in the state are suicides. Studies show that creating a buffer between temporary suicidal ideation and firearm access saves lives. Fully automatic machine guns are exceptionally lethal weapons that have been prohibited by federal and state law for decades.

Please do not wait until we have another mass casualty event in our state to do something !!