

Hello Oregon Senators,

My name is Grant Clere and I am a 19 year old who has lived in Oregon my entire life. I will keep things short and sweet for whoever is reading this. I deeply cherish the state that myself and many others call home. However it deeply saddens me to see what direction we are headed in. This letter is to address a very specific issue that is very dear to me. I have grown up hunting and it has taught me a lot in life. I avidly support conservation groups such as Delta waterfowl and Ducks unlimited to protect the resources I enjoy. Hunting is a way of life and a right (public resource) enjoyed by many in this state. When I read Senate Bill 697, I was extremely alarmed at what I read. This bill strips legal adults of the right to their own property and vilifies those of us who have done nothing wrong. I am a legal gun owner of multiple firearms that according to this bill would be illegal for me to even possess, effectively making me a criminal overnight. Why are we treated as adults until it comes to something that you don't like? I can go to war at 18 and enter legally binding contracts or even go to jail but I have to ask my parents who have no legal bearing over me permission to use something that I legally bought myself? Make it make sense. We aren't forced to take breathalyzers before we drive everywhere even though we're much more likely to be killed by a drunk driver than by a psychopath with a gun. So now I can't own my own property because someone somewhere went and committed a horrendous crime? Mind you that almost all of these crimes are committed using stolen (illegal) or illegally purchased firearms. Criminals have no regard for the law and are NOT going to change their minds because the law says that they can't have something. All that this bill would do is turn tens of thousands of Oregonians into criminals while simultaneously violating multiple constitutional rights and not stopping any of the problems we have to deal with as citizens.