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| Submitter: | Mark Holady |
| On Behalf Of: | self |
| Committee: | Senate Committee On Judiciary |
| Measure, Appointment or Topic: | SB243 |

I have hunted since I was a youth. At age 13, I went through Hunter's Safety. I also started trapshooting with a semi-automatic shotgun. I had three shots to hit a clay pigeon. Sometimes I needed all three. At 14, I got my first license and started hunting upland game.

Although I possessed a semi-automatic weapon, something which every gun effectively is unless the gun is a breechloader or a muzzle loader, I have managed to become a productive member of society. I served 10 years in the Army, have practiced law for 35 years, raised two young daughters with my wife of 40 years, paid for their schooling and helped them obtain merit scholarships, served the public as an emergency communications ham radio operator, and served my church for 30 years. I've also engaged in voter education, literacy programs, and I walk my neighbors pups when I can steal them away. I taught marksmanship in the Army, and I've taught marksmanship to you through the Oregon Hunters' Association.

While all four components of SB 243 are problematic, the age restriction language contained in the bill would negatively affect our youth and young adult hunters and sport shooters. Restricting possession of semi-automatic rifles and shotguns fails to take into account the standard uses of semi-automatic shotguns in waterfowl, upland bird, and turkey hunting, as well as being a primary firearm of high school and collegiate sport shooting teams.

Additionally, due to the language stipulating that a firearm could only be transferred to a minor from a parent or guardian, firearms training and educational courses, such as the shotgun skills courses presented by Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, would no longer be able to provide temporary firearms to students under 21.

You want youth to be introduced to weapons by responsible adults, not enticed to play with them by their friends. Who is the better teacher, a coach or a gang member? It is better to see a shotgun blast cut a 4x4 in two and know the danger capacity of the weapon than to use the shotgun wrongly and injure or kill a fellow human being.

The age restriction language in SB 243 creates numerous barriers to entry for new youth and young adult hunters and sport shooters who want to participate in hunting and shooting activities and therefore I strongly oppose the bill.