

Submitter: David Wiley  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

#### Chairman and Members of the Committee

Please don't support SB 243. This bill punishes only the innocent, both as individuals and as a society. It makes criminals of otherwise solid citizens. It constructively violates the US Constitution's 2nd Amendment – the right to possess and bear arms.

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 consider the long history and customary use of semi-automatic shotguns in waterfowl, upland bird and turkey hunting, and competitive marksmanship – in particularly as the primary firearm of high school and collegiate clay-target shooting teams.

SB 243 would likely cripple if not end current hunter safety and marksmanship training. The bill language stipulating that a firearm could only be transferred to a minor from a parent or guardian, will make firearms training and educational courses, such as the shotgun skills and hunter safety courses presented by Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, would no longer be able to provide temporary firearms to students under 21.

The change restricting age for possession of a firearm to people age 21 or older is particularly hypocritical. At age 18 a citizen is considered an Adult by law, they can VOTE in state and federal elections, they can Enlist in United States Military Service putting their life on the line for USA. By what demented calculus can raising the age to 21 be justified.

This bill will directly curtail the customary practice of our hunting heritage. SB 243 age restrictions to people aged 21 or greater creates numerous barriers to entry for new youth and young adults less than 21 years of age who want to participate in hunting and shooting activities.

Funding for conservation will be greatly reduced. SB 243 will reduce the principal source of state revenue which funds Oregon's wildlife conservation – hunting license and tag revenue and excise tax revenue from the sale of arms and ammunition.

SB 243 will very adversely impact Oregon's hunting and sport shooting industry and the jobs, and the taxes generated will be reduced or disappear completely.

All things considered, SB 243 is bad legislation, ill advised. It unfairly attacks the law-abiding citizen rather than those who do not obey the law and thus will not be effective.

Please do not support SD 243. Allow only a quiet death in committee.

Thank you,

Dave Wiley  
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