

Submitter: Jeremy Wilkins

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

The original version was terrible. Now these last-minute revisions have made it even worse.

If the goal is to reduce shootings by criminals, this bill is counterproductive. Criminals don't follow gun laws—they take advantage of them. By making it harder for law-abiding citizens to protect themselves, this bill emboldens criminals and increases public risk.

School shootings continue to occur because schools are designated as gun-free zones—an open invitation to those seeking defenseless victims.

Suicide rates are high, not because of legal firearm ownership, but due to rampant drug abuse, the overprescription of psychotropic drugs to children, and a failing education system that fosters confusion rather than stability.

Oregon already has background checks in place. Creating a redundant and costly new system is a waste of taxpayer money—funds that would be better spent on mental health care, housing and education.

Oregonians deserve real solutions, not ineffective legislation that ignores the root causes of violence. Just like the failed drug decriminalization experiment, this bill will only lead to more problems and another legislative failure in Salem.

I strongly oppose this bill.