

Submitter: Ryan Wist  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

Members of the committee,

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.

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.

Additionally, increased complexity of compliance and increasing the cost of compliance disproportionately impact lower earners, immigrants and people who are less accustomed to navigating complex bureaucratic processes. The use of modern sporting firearms by lawful citizens is a widely adopted pastime in our state. It constitutes a form of community for many. Decreasing access to lower income Oregonians, newly immigrated Oregonians, and Oregonians who are systemically restricted from having a familiarity with navigating bureaucratic processes will present an issue of equal access based on race, education and income. These people will find themselves more likely to be thrust into the correctional institutions and programs at a higher level than those who have the means and systemic privilege to navigate this new level of bureaucratic compliance.

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

Thank you for your consideration.