

Submitter: Lamont Wolverton  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

Dear Representative

OPPOSED to SB 243

This measure SB 243 will inflict severe damage to the legal rights of firearm owners, Law Enforcement and impact the economy negatively throughout this great state, I am in great opposition of this bill.

Not only is this bill an infringement on the right of personal self-defense, but the fees and restrictions on age purchases for 18-year-olds along with the 72-hour waiting period. To have to wait for a fire arm to protect yourself in this rapidly growing crime rate is unconstitutional and unjust and can lead to unnecessary harm to someone's defense in a timely manner.

The passage of the bill would not address crime but only complicate the right for procuring, licensing and ownership of firearms that have been the birthright of Oregonians for the last 164 years following the state's constitution. Dr. John Lott from the Crime Prevention Center states when firearms are removed not only does crime increase, so do personal altercations increase.

During the Testimonies at the Capitol, there was allot of fear and unfortunately many tragedies that were presented but the real issue, criminals with illegally procured firearms were overlooked and not presented, so how many crimes were committed by Legal CHL Ownership (less than 1%) and what about the lenient sentences that criminals are getting to recommit another crime against Oregonian's. Crime rates are the highest in the nation.

The addition of the Gun Free Zones would make it very difficult not only for CHL holders but also Law Enforcement to determine compliance, why penalize the "good Guys" criminals capitalize on these do-nothing Zones.

The common theme in the Active Shooter tragedies is that the individual was a long list of mental challenges not only from home but social, health and personal integration issues that are overlooked especially with Oregon's mental health system that was mostly disassembled years ago, fix this system and get these kids some help.

Now with SB243's passage it would be harder to protect ourselves, in addition with the Sex Offenders database being reduced will only embolden more criminal activities.

This is a poorly written law that will punish hard working Oregonian's and not do enough to get to the root of the issues, the increasing Criminal Head Count, Mental Health Lenient Judges and Police headcount reduction.

Thank You  
Lamont Wolverton  
Lincoln City OR

<https://crimeresearch.org/>

At a rate of 29.6 per 100 people from 2019-2023, Portland ranks 2nd for major cities with the most property crime.