

Submitter:

Bruce Demaris

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB243

To whom it may concern,

I have lived in Oregon for most of my 40 years. I have hunted this land with my father, my brothers, and my children. All of my life firearms have been part of my family's legacy. From my grandfather on down to my children. My grandfather taught me how to reload ammunition, shoot straight, and handle fire arms with safety. My father would teach me the history of his firearms when I was young. When I turned 18, I bought my first rifle. It was a prideful moment in my life, not only because I had worked and earned the money to purchase it, but being left-handed I was able to purchase my own rifle fit for me.

I wouldn't trade that moment of accomplishment and satisfaction for a sheet of the paper that you write these bills on. Yet the only thing stopping bad laws and legislation from going into effect is more paper. My tax dollars pay for you guys to make up laws that limit my rights, and my take-home pay pays for the fight against it. I don't know if mail in ballots are tampered with, but what I do know is that technically you are all voted into your positions. Not passing gun bills will not make you lose your position. Taking away people's Will.

I have never met a criminal who obeyed the law, making another law will not legalize those people. I understand the argument that if there were a fewer firearms, there will be less crime. The fact is the crime is in the mind, not in the firearm. If people want to hurt other people, they will find a way. Laws will not change this. If you really want to make a difference in this state, legislate more funding for mental health, and awareness of mental health.