

Submitter: Jerod Broadfoot
On Behalf Of: My Family
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

Chair Prozanski and Vice-Chair Thatcher,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to SB 243 and the -1 Amendment. The -1 Amendment is the fantasy of every anti-gun organization and is an all out attack on honest, law-abiding citizens like myself and family. I urge you to oppose this terrible piece of legislation and let it die in committee.

Giving any other governmental body than the state legislature the authority to regulate the possession of concealed firearms is ridiculous and will only turn law-abiding citizens into felons. Criminals don't follow our laws. If they did there would be no shootings in "gun-free zones." The only people that obey these fantasy land gun-free zones that have been dreamt up by anti-gun Senators are law-abiding citizens. We aren't the problem, but maybe that's the point. If this passes even walking down the sidewalk in my neighborhood I could become a felon without even knowing it. Walking past a school, irrigation district or any number of other special districts of the government you are giving this authority to could make up their own bans. In every other aspect of governance we strive for consistency, yet on this issue Democrats are perfectly fine with a patchwork of different laws that could changes 100 times between Pendleton and Salem. Think about it. Most of you sitting on this committee have voted for consistency in state regulations. From building codes to traffic laws you have all worked towards consistency for all of us so why is this issue different? It's feels like a trap being set to ultimately take our guns.

The problem here isn't gun owners, it's the so called gun-free zones. They are open invitations to criminals looking to do mass harm with a gun because they know there will be no defense or resistance. As you read my testimony I would like to remind you that all of you are protected by the Oregon State Police in the Legislature. Our kids, no such luck. Those supporting this bill would rather take our rights away than protect our children. I don't say this lightly, but say it with evidence of inaction by one party that has had control for decades. Instead of acting to protect our children like we protect our politicians and money you have made gun owners the villains. The solution is simple. Hire veterans to protect our schools like you're protected in the Capital Building. Armed veterans standing guard outside of our schools would prevent school shooters or at the worst, stop them in their tracks. That's common sense. The only way to stop a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun, not a sign telling them it's a gun-free zone.

Instead of enforcing the laws we have you would rather attack our Constitutional

Right to own and possess firearms. Adding a 72 hour waiting period will do one thing, endanger the lives of law-abiding citizens by preventing them from obtaining a firearm when they need it to protect themselves. You're focusing on making gun owners felons instead of enforcing the laws we have. If this weren't true then please explain why you're not up in arms over the fact that the Oregon State Police isn't arresting and charging every felon that attempts to purchase a gun illegally? There's literally a record of it and it's a felony. My bet is it raises more campaign cash to go after our gun rights than it does using common sense to address criminal activity or the mental health crisis in this state.

There are solutions available to you without passing this assault on our Constitutional right. Instead of attempting to work across the isle in a bipartisan manner you have once again chose the path of gutting and stuffing a bill with little notice to the public and then allowing only limited public testimony so you can shove it down our throats with your super majority. It's no wonder we want to leave your People's Republic of Oregon and join Idaho. As a public employee and AFSCME member for over 18 years I'm personally tired of your attacks