

Submitter: Donald Stone

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

This is my conclusion to my testimony on March 27, 2025 in support of SB 243.

Finally, I have some concerns about the increasing negative consequences of gun use in our state of Oregon. Much like the 1st Amendment the 2nd is not "absolute". The Supreme Court has ruled freedom of speech is NOT ABSOLUTE! And this national final court just recently said "ghost guns" are illegal in their present state. That's a great decision in the right direction. With regards to the 1st Amendment and freedom of speech the Court has stated no one can scream "FIRE, FIRE, FIRE" during a movie in a theater without "just cause". People can be killed or injured when escaping a theater under these circumstances. This is true of the "right to bear arms" as well! Further, uncontrolled use of cars has had harmful effects to all of us. Laws to control negative car use has benefited us. Likewise, the unregulated use of harmful drugs has killed and harmed many. Drug laws have been established to protect all of us! And car and drug laws have continued positively since. So why not guns???

Back to guns...we must have stricter gun laws and regulations to bring down the horrible consequences of their use! After every school shooting, I spend much time dealing with the press and my personal therapist talking about my experiences and my "PTSD"! Enough!!! It's been proven "waiting periods", the control of assault weapons and "machine gun" innovations and devices and age restrictions have reduced gun violence...all part of this proposed legislation. Lastly guns must be taken away from the "wrong people" including the mentally ill, domestic abusers and criminals. For me personally schools and public institutions need maximum security laws for as much safety as possible. Kipp Kinkle, the Thurston shooter was previously diagnosed mentally ill and at the time of the shooting was only age 14 when he attacked my school and my students!

Finally, thank you for the opportunity to share with you. I know you folks will significantly reduce gun violence in our Oregon schools and elsewhere! THANK YOU!