

Submitter: John Bonham

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

We don't need more laws on controlling the process of obtaining a gun, since anyone determined to have one will find a way to obtain one. We certainly don't need to pass laws that make criminals out of law abiding citizens or put limits on our 18 to 20 year old citizens. These are the people who comprise the majority of our military and are clearly competent to own and handle a gun. The problem in this state is a lack of mental health treatment and programs for people who shouldn't have guns and are prone to misuse them. Why does Oregon always think that they can take programs or pass laws that have failed everywhere else and make them work here. Take a look at Chicago and their gun laws and their record on gun violence! Remember Vera Katz and her attempt to do away with grading our students to having schools develop portfolio's on every student. How did that work out for us. It disrupted our school systems, cost a lot of money, and failed here as well as everywhere else. Let's not do it again. How about we do something unique like looking at the needs of our citizens and tax payers and finding ways to solve their problems and serve their needs. Addressing the mental health issues would help with all kinds of issues related to violence, and also help address the issue of homelessness, domestic violence, family breakdowns, etc. I know it is a very difficult issue and would take a lot of effort, but isn't that what is needed, something that will really make a difference. The question is , are you up to it?