

Submitter: Alisha Overstreet
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Honorable members of the committee,

My name is Alisha Overstreet. I write to you today, in strong OPPOSITION to SB-243-1. This omnibus bill of gun-owner control measures does little, if anything, to completely prevent firearms deaths. These measures are merely additional intrusions on Oregonians' constitutionally protected rights based on biased data and research. I have presented on the disproportionate impact these laws have on racial minorities, especially Black Oregonians, individuals with disabilities, and other protected classes of people. Whether individuals on this committee 'like' what I have to say is one thing, but every single person on this committee gave an oath, and it is important to understand that arbitrary, feel-good policies are not always in line with Oregonians' rights. With that said, it is clear that the supermajority Party currently in power is (quite ironically) intent on circumventing the judicial process by passing a repeal and replace Measure 114 bill, coupled with this omnibus bill that includes every level of infringement special interest groups like Moms Demand Action, Everytown, Giffords, and Ceasefire Oregon have demanded over the last few years; all in the name of "saving lives."

However, these policies do not and will not directly address the problems our friends on the other side claim they will.

1. The Supreme Court has already, on multiple occasions, explained that interest-balancing is NOT allowed when it comes to a constitutionally-protected right. The 2nd amendment is no different. The 3-day waiting period aka 'cool down period,' is clearly interest balancing.

2. Given that the supermajority Party is intent on circumventing the judicial system and pass the repeal and replace Measure 114 bill (HB3075), the 3-day waiting period imposes an additional burden on Oregonians, as the permit to purchase application period is associated with a de-facto 30-60 day waiting period.

3. The 5th circuit court of appeals has ruled that age-based discrimination is unconstitutional. Several other age-based discrimination suits are working their way through other courts as well. For a state that prides itself in "protecting people's rights," Oregon sure does seem to engage in a wealth of discrimination.

<https://www.firearmspolicy.org/fifth-circuit-strikes-down-federal-age-based-handgun->

ban

4. Likely the most important point of my testimony: Instead of wasting money on gun-owner control measures to virtue signal and bait people into believing that these intrusions and infringements will "save lives," let's invest in mental health services - ACTUAL mental health services - not behavior modification techniques! Let's invest in our schools to provide peer support specialist for our young people; provide funding to place school psychologists into every school; increase funding for rural access to mental health services (NOT behavior modification); STOP vilifying veterans, rural folks, and black Oregonians AND STOP using veterans, rural folks, and black Oregonians as pawns to push biased and misinformed special interest demands!

5. I will repeat what I said during my HB3075 testimony:

It is 2025. I am NOT a slave, and you are NOT my master! As a free American, I should not have to beg for a permission slip to exercise my rights.

Stop interest balancing. Stop wasting time, resources, and money. Stop treating me like I am a second class citizen who must beg for permission to exercise my rights.

Thank you for your time.

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