

Submitter: J G

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

Respected Legislators and Fellow Oregonians — SB 243 is being framed as a public safety measure, but it contains serious overreach that could negatively impact responsible gun owners across the state.

This bill would:

Impose a mandatory 72-hour waiting period — even after a background check is cleared,

Ban a wide range of firearm accessories using vague and sweeping definitions,

Raise the minimum age for legal firearm ownership to 21, even for adults who vote, serve in the military, and live independently, and

Expand gun-free zones to include not just public buildings, but also the adjacent grounds — an undefined term that could include sidewalks, parking lots, or public spaces nearby.

It also gives local governments, school boards, and public agencies the power to ban Concealed Handgun License (CHL) holders from carrying on their property — creating a confusing patchwork of rules where carrying legally in one area could make you a felon in another.

We all want safer communities, but SB 243 misses the mark. It creates legal traps for people who follow the law while doing little to address the actual drivers of gun violence — like illegal trafficking, mental health crises, and domestic abuse.