

Submitter:

Lawrence Baird

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB243

I am a retired police officer having served for 30 years, my last 30 with the Portland Police Bureau. I also own firearms for sport, hunting and self defense. This bill will not affect criminal activity. Criminals don't care about the laws, that's why we call them criminals. This bill and measure 114 are touted as a safety measure. We aren't experiencing a rash of 'accidental' shootings. Requiring training that is as yet undefined, to purchase a firearm is not going to save a life or "1,000 lives in 10 years" as the news recently reported. Criminals don't go through a background check when they buy a black market gun, or when they steal one in a burglary. Gangsters shooting gangsters are not going to obtain a permit. It's already illegal to murder someone. Enforce the existing laws. As a police officer of 35 years I saw far more deaths due to drunk drivers than I did shootings but you won't put restrictions on drinkers will you. Your bill is an infringement of my rights to legally own a firearm. The OSP background check can take an hour, or in the recent past, 30 days. You want a 72-hour cool off period? Do you think that will one life? Nope. I and many others in law enforcement are opposed to this ill conceived and misleading bill. It's not about safety, it's about control because you don't like firearms. I don't like drunk drivers.