

Michael C. Smith

Date: 6 April 2026
To: Senate Judiciary Committee
From: Michael C. Smith
Re: Opposition to SB 697

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Michael Smith. For purposes of identification, I am a gun owning Democrat. While I serve many roles in the Democratic Parties of Oregon and Multnomah County, I'm providing this testimony today in a personal capacity.

I have examined SB 697 and I am opposed to this bill at this time.

SB 697 as written would raise the age to purchase most firearms to 21. While I support this idea in principle, the Committee should be aware that [a federal court recently did away with the federal ban on persons under 21 purchasing handguns](#). As such, this bill is not likely to survive the inevitable court challenge, which would waste already precious resources.

I ask the Committee to set aside this bill and focus on gun policies that are better founded.

Sincerely,

Michael C. Smith