

Submitter: Clara Schneid
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB429
Date: April 6, 2025
To: Senate Committee on Judiciary
Subject: Support SB 429

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Clara Schneid, and I live in Portland, Oregon. Gun violence has reached epidemic proportions in our state and nation and should be understood and treated as a public health crisis. Last year, over 650 Oregonians died from gun tragedies, and countless kids and community members were traumatized by the fear of a shooting or the loss of a loved one to suicide. I work in Portland Public Schools, and I am on alert daily, prepared to be a first responder to gun violence. This January, I lost a close friend, who was in the midst of a mental health crisis, to suicide by firearm. I believe if there had been a 72 hour waiting period between purchasing and receiving the gun, my friend would still be alive.

Extensive evidence shows these tragedies could have been prevented. These aren't numbers - these are Oregonians, and loved ones, who could be alive today.

I urge you to pass a strong gun tragedy prevention agenda this year to make our cities safer, protect victims of abuse, prevent firearm suicides, and keep kids safe in school.

Please prioritize the health and safety of Oregonians by supporting evidence-based regulations to limit gun related tragedies in our communities. Lives are at stake, and your vote will determine how many can be saved.

Sincerely,
Clara Schneid
Portland, Oregon