

Submitter:

Jim Strong

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB697

I oppose passage of SB 697. Restricting the firearms rights of a law-abiding citizen who has attained the age of majority under the misguided notion that it will somehow increase public safety is ignorant & simplistic. Using the same logic the state should raise the age to lawfully possess a drivers license because motor vehicle deaths outnumber gun deaths in the USA (figures cited by the Violence Policy Center & repeated by others have been repeatedly debunked due to faulty methodology & outcome bias). If gun deaths are truly concern then legislate more funds for proper mental health care. Two-thirds of gun deaths are suicides, even in Oregon. Desires to mitigate unnecessary death should drive efforts toward mental health, not restricting constitutional rights of law-abiding constituents. Four of Oregon's bonafide school shootings involved child suspects under the age of 18. This bill, or any like it, would not have prevented those shootings.