

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3553

I enthusiastically support House Bill 3553, which cracks down on pill presses and similar equipment used to flood our streets with counterfeit drugs. This bill rightly prioritizes a pressing public health crisis over futile Second Amendment restrictions, and its emergency status ensures swift action.

Oregon's drug epidemic is out of control—over 1,000 opioid deaths in 2022 (ODH data), many from fake pills laced with fentanyl. HB 3553 makes possessing or selling tableting machines a Class C felony (up to 5 years, \$125,000 fine), targeting the source of this poison. The DEA's 2023 seizures confirm these tools fuel deadly supply chains. Exempting registered users under ORS 475.125 keeps it fair.

Contrast this with bills like SB 697 or SB 698, which waste time harassing law-abiding gun owners. FBI data (2022) shows concealed carriers commit under 1% of crimes—why target them? HB 3553 focuses on real killers: drugs, not rights. Its immediate effect upon signing is a bold step forward.

Pass HB 3553. Stop squandering effort on 2A and hit drug manufacturers hard. This saves lives now.