

Submitter: Toni Gomse

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

I strongly oppose SB 243.

This bill once again targets law-abiding gun owners with restrictions that do nothing to address the root cause of violence in our communities: Oregon's failure to prosecute criminals and enforce existing laws.

We do not need another layer of bureaucracy for background checks or arbitrary waiting periods. We need accountability. The Oregon Judicial Department and District Attorneys routinely decline to prosecute gun crimes already on the books. According to public records, many individuals caught attempting to illegally purchase firearms face no charges, and law enforcement follow-up is rare, even when flagged by the State Police.

Criminals do not obey waiting periods, respect firearm-free zones, or care about device bans. Meanwhile, this bill punishes responsible citizens, delaying their ability to defend themselves and making it a misdemeanor to carry in areas where they were previously protected by their concealed handgun license.

Instead of creating more laws that burden lawful owners and do nothing to deter criminals, the legislature should demand real consequences for those who violate the laws we already have.

I strongly oppose SB 243.