

Submitter:

ASHTYN TORGUSSON

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB243

I'm writing to strongly oppose SB 243. While I absolutely believe in responsible gun ownership, this bill goes too far. It ends up putting too much pressure on regular, law-abiding people, and it creates delays that could actually put folks at risk. On top of that, it threatens constitutional rights.

The idea of a 72-hour waiting period for buying firearms or unfinished parts sounds like a blanket solution to a complex issue. It treats everyone the same, even people who've already passed a background check. That extra delay—three full days—might not seem like much to some, but in urgent situations, it could be the difference between life and death. If someone needs to protect themselves right away, waiting isn't an option.

The bill also wants to expand the number of places where concealed carry isn't allowed—even for people who've followed every rule: background checks, training, the whole process. That doesn't stop criminals, who won't follow those restrictions anyway. But it does take away the ability for law-abiding citizens to protect themselves. I can't help but think of Carol Bowne in New Jersey—killed by an abusive ex while waiting for her permit. She did everything right, but the system failed her.

I'm also in direct opposition in regards to the section about "rapid fire activators." Laws should be clear and specific, not open to interpretation or confusion. This part of the bill could end up criminalizing people who have no intent to break the law, simply because of unclear definitions as well as incorporate unnecessary regulation on accessories that are not common in gun violence.