

May 13, 2025

To the Senate Judiciary Committee

### Opposition of SB 243

The arguments for SB 243 is quite compelling, but hearing and reading those support of SB 243 is flawed and disingenuous to the facts and reality. The reality is that this bill will not do anything to stop a shooting at all, let alone prevent anyone from committing suicide. These claims and testimony view that law abiding citizens are the problem, not the criminals or those dealing with mental illness either long or short term, even a “snap”.

There are many mentions of Columbine Mass Shooting. Though tragic, the two kids who carried the attack also committed suicide, after leaving bomb makings in the school that could have done far more damage that were of home made from unregulated components, which I will not myself share in such a public forum. Further, the two kids were dealing with mental illness of depression, conversations that sparked on Phil Donahue for a while after the Thurston Shooting, something of a same nature of a student who was dealing with mental illness himself. Even the Vegas mass shooter dealt with some form of mental illness that was noticeable.

As seen over the past decade is a noticeable increase in mental illness. Many today don't know their gender, or claim not to, mentally ill and deranged. In Salem alone, beginning of 2025 within couple first few months, Adam Lansky was arrested by US Attorney General's office. Why didn't the state deal with this? Was the state going to let this go? I had thought that FBI assisted in the shootings pertaining to the Tesla dealership in Salem. That is not the case? I am unsure. Nonetheless, this law would not have stopped Lansky from this shooting spree on Tesla. The firearms and suppressors he possess were not his to begin with. But we, the law abiding citizens are told that this would not happen? Reality check: criminals don't care about the law.

Bump stocks do nothing to enhance a firearm's ability to shoot faster or add “automatic” ability to firing the firearm. All that a Bump stock is, is an added device to assist to securing the firearm, most especially to those who are physically disabled. California, Washington, several other states who have banned Bump Stocks only put law abiding citizens who are physically disabled not allowed and disfranchised from being able to self defense, the original idea behind Bump Stocks was to allow those who are disabled a better chance to self defense. The “Rapid Firing Device” is merely just that, a rapid firing device; it does not make for full automatic anything. One still has to press the trigger for each round. Even demo's make that clear to those who not only have picked up a firearm, but also own a firearm, while utilizing Bump Stock and RFD.

This bill will not prevent suicide either. There is nothing in here that will stop anyone committing suicide, even the 72 hour waiting period. There are other means that people have, and will, find means to commit suicide by rope hanging, drowning, suicide by cop, jumping off of ledges, so on. Anyone who is suicidal are dealing with mental crisis that no one is addressing or attempting to help those in such distress. Mental illness is not cured by putting band-aids on banning suicidal methods, it is cured by helping those folks from their demons. It is dishonest to say the least as how Oregon has treated those with mental health issues and discard them, as such the voter's approved Mental Health Hospital in Junction City, operated for less than a year and mothballed after spending \$20 million (I believe) tax dollars on levies and bonds, only to be waste tax dollars.

The main problem is not guns. Never seen nor has there been factual evidence that a gun has shot someone. It's an inanimate object. It's always the person using the firearm with ill intent who is the problem. Mental health is a problem, but even mental health can be cured a great deal if actually served, something that Oregon is among the worst in the nation, along with education. In some statements, I hear "studies proven" this and that within SB 243 testimonies, but the thing is, there are no studies and none that I have seen been made available or even cited, expecting to believe in some ethereal? Quite frankly, I cannot believe in something based on someone said so, and laws need to reflect on same standards on facts.

Best regards

Tony Pokorny  
"Flannel Daddy"