

Submitter:

Sean Johnson

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB243

Members of the House Rules Committee. My name is Sean Johnson, I live in West Salem, a Veteran, Law Abiding Citizen and a small business owner. I strongly oppose Senate Bill 243, which only imposes more restrictions and regulations on law abiding gun owners. This bill does nothing to address the root cause of crimes committed primarily by criminals with a firearm. First off, the term "Gun Violence" is inaccurate at best and was only created to raise fear and shift the blame from the real cause, 'Human Violence'

The overwhelming majority of law-abiding citizens are not committing crimes but instead as shown in several reports have stopped or prevented further violence caused by criminals. All law-abiding citizens pass a background through the state in order to purchase or transfer a firearm. Placing a waiting period on the transfer of a firearm could create a potential risk to any individual looking for protection in any community. Here in Salem the homeless problem is out of control. People especially women have been confronted, harassed and assaulted in Wallace Marine Park and Minto Brown. The National Institute of Justice put out a study in 2018 stating that waiting periods had no significant result in reducing crime committed with a firearm. The ban on rapid fire devices as it pertains to 'Bump Stocks' is unfounded and only hurts law abiding citizens who manufacture and use them for recreation. Bump stocks are not easily operated and contrary to what has been misrepresented by many is that they do not turn a firearm into a machine gun. I have used them; I watched other people try to use them and by now means to turn a firearm into a machine gun. All this will accomplish is even more erosion of our Second Amendment Rights of law-abiding citizens instead of going after and punishing criminals who commit crimes involving a firearm.

As a law abiding CHL and FFL holder I have been through intensive background checks which I wholeheartedly support. I strongly oppose allowing local governments placing bans on CHL holders near or adjacent to public buildings. We, CHL holders are overwhelmingly not committing crimes and have less than 0.1% revocation found by the Crime Prevention Research Center in 2022.

I strongly urge this committee to reject SB 243 and focus on solutions that will have actual benefit like the homeless issue, mental health, enforcing the laws that are already on the books, hold criminals accountable for their crimes and most of all stop penalizing law abiding VOTING citizens.

Respectfully,

Sean Johnson