

Submitter: Matthew Chaisson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB243

??? Opposition to SB 243 – Excessive Measures That Miss the Mark

1. Overreach and Constitutional Concerns

SB 243 bundles several major gun-control measures into a single bill—72-hour waiting period, CD age restriction, rapid-fire device ban, and expanded gun-free zones—without separate votes, diluting transparency .

Questionable constitutionality: raising the purchase age to 21 penalizes lawful adults (18–20) who vote and serve in the military . As one Reddit commenter noted:

> “Raise the minimum age for legal firearm ownership to 21, even for adults who vote, serve in the military, and live independently...”

2. Unnecessarily Punitive Waiting Period

A mandatory 72-hour wait delays access—even after background checks have cleared. Victims of violence or stalking may be left defenseless .

Delays and fees may erode trust in legal transactions, pushing people toward illicit channels—a point repeatedly raised by gun-rights advocates .

3. Vagueness Creates Legal Traps

The bill expands “gun-free zones” to include adjacent grounds, an undefined category that may cover sidewalks, parking lots, etc., putting lawful carriers at risk of unintentional violations .

Local governments and school boards can enact patchwork bans on CHL holders, risking chaotic enforcement and confusion .

4. Fails to Address Root Causes

Between 2019 and 2023, 77% of Oregon’s gun deaths were suicides—yet SB 243 focuses on access restrictions, not mental-health care.

5. Economic and Rural Equity Impacts

Rural dealers and customers will be disproportionately affected—facing burdensome delays, extra fees, and long drives to stores