

12 June 2025

To: House Committee on Rules

Re: SB 243 - Oppose, More Gun Rules & Regulations

Chair Bowman, Vice Chairs Drazan and Pham and Members on the House Committee on Rules,

I am writing in strong opposition HB SB 243. Reasons for my opposition include:

- SB 243 is a deeply flawed gun control measure that infringes on the constitutional rights of responsible gun owners to defend themselves **while doing nothing to keep firearms away from criminals**.
- SB 243 does nothing to make our communities safer or take dangerous drugs off our streets. In targeting responsible Oregonians, instead of criminals, SB 243 is simply another unconstitutional gun grab.
- SB 243 expands "gun-free zones" by allowing local governments to prohibit CHL holders from carrying in public buildings without requiring those facilities to offer additional security measures, increasing the risk of mass casualty events. There is no credible evidence that concealed handgun license holders pose a risk to public safety. All data shows that CHL holders commit even less crime than police officers. Twenty percent of mass shootings are stopped by CHL holders.
- SB 243 also criminalizes the possession of bump stocks, an accessory rarely used in crimes. There is no credible evidence that banning them will reduce gun violence.
- We cannot substitute real public safety and investing in law enforcement for a paper sign on the front door that tells criminals to leave their gun at home. Disarming responsible CHL holders while offering no alternative protection is reckless.

Therefore I ask you not to move SB 243 forward.

Sincerely,

E. WERNER RESCHKE Oregon State Representative, HD 55 *The Crater Lake District*