

Submitter:

Wyatt Sauvageau

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB243

Greetings, House Rules Committee. My name is Wyatt Sauvageau, a resident of Rural Molalla, Oregon, and a law-abiding gun owner who frequently has run-ins with predatory animals and has had to use my firearms to defend myself and my animals against mountain lions. I not only currently have the ability to, but HAVE defended myself against threats. I have experience in this. I'm here to firmly oppose Senate Bill 243, which imposes unconstitutional firearms restrictions that violate the absolute Second Amendment rights of Oregonians while failing to address the root causes of gun violence.

First, the 72-hour waiting period for firearm purchases is an unacceptable infringement on our constitutional protections. The Second Amendment guarantees the right to keep and bear arms without delay. Many Oregonians, particularly in rural areas, rely on firearms for self-defense, hunting, or protecting livestock. This restriction could leave vulnerable individuals, such as domestic violence victims, defenseless. A 2018 National Institute of Justice study shows waiting periods have inconsistent effects on reducing gun violence but consistently burden law-abiding citizens who have passed background checks.

Second, the ban on rapid-fire devices, such as bump stocks, is a direct assault on Second Amendment freedoms. The right to bear arms includes access to all lawful tools, regardless of their use in crimes. FBI crime statistics indicate rifles, including those with such accessories, account for less than 3% of firearm-related homicides. Punishing lawful owners with felony charges for possession or transfer does nothing to deter criminals, who obtain firearms illegally. This provision is an unconstitutional overreach that erodes our fundamental rights.

Finally, allowing local governments to ban concealed carry in public buildings undermines the Second Amendment's guarantee of the right to bear arms.

Concealed handgun license holders undergo rigorous background checks and training to carry responsibly. Restricting their ability to defend themselves in public spaces violates their constitutional protections. Need I remind you, that Oregon has laws that places the burden on law abiding citizens to be held liable if they are a VICTIM of their guns being stolen? If I were to leave my gun in a locked box (Required under our safe storage laws) inside of my ALREADY locked car, while I went inside of a public building, I would be at risk for it being stolen? This really places a risk factor on us to just carry it concealed anyway as the legally safer option even if it was illegal to carry in an area. Concealed is concealed, and nobody should know that I have it. The laws already put in place have made it incredibly difficult for otherwise law abiding citizens to follow the law. I've come across people in person that have no idea how many laws they're breaking because of recent bills pushed through. But they're breaking a lot of them. They're mortified when told they are. They

had no idea. These people of otherwise entirely law abiding citizens. Stop putting stuff into law that blindsides people and only affects law abiding citizens. You have ZERO idea of how this really does hurt people. You also have no idea how many people who do not care, and will rebel anyways because it is in fact, their SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHT, WHICH SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED.

Do NOT pass these infringements!

A 2022 Crime Prevention Research Center study confirms concealed carry permit holders are overwhelmingly law-abiding, with revocation rates below 0.1%.

I urge the committee to reject SB 243 in its entirety. The Second Amendment is absolute, and no law should infringe upon it. Focus on enforcing existing laws and addressing mental health without penalizing law-abiding citizens. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Wyatt Sauvageau