

From: Nicholas Skaggs
To: [Arrington Kristi](#)
Subject: Gun Testimony - SB 797 and 764:
Date: Monday, April 17, 2017 12:12:03 PM

Hello,

I am writing to to advocate against passage of the three proposed bills listed in the subject of this email: SB 797 and 764.

I am concerned that the passage of SB 764 will create more barriers to entry for our society's most vulnerable. Adding additional costs and time to the CHL application process will only make it more difficult for people with lower incomes and less free time to take steps to protect themselves and their families.

Furthermore, I am opposed to creating more barriers to entry for the exercise of *any* of our constitutional rights, be it marriage, voting, or the right to keep and bear arms. SB 764 is creating those barriers, and moving the goalposts further out than ever before to acquire a CHL in Oregon. Oregon already mandates a safety course for CHL applicants.

Now, SB 764 is arguing that the required safety course is "not enough." I worry this is a slippery slope, and in a few years, live fire training will not be "good enough," and eventually Oregon will become a "may-issue" state instead of a "shall issue" state. Furthermore, most people willing to go through the process to acquire a CHL legally in Oregon are also willing to put in the practice time needed to demonstrate proficiency with their weapons. I believe this is an issue of individual accountability, not an issue which requires further restriction and legislation.

SB 797 has been proposed as an elimination of a "loophole" in the background check process to purchase a firearm in Oregon. I believe this is disingenuous. The "loophole" in question is actually a legal *protection*, a safeguard against a failure of the OSP to process background checks in an accurate and timely manner.

I believe that if the restrictions proposed by these two bills were applied to *voting*, people would be up in arms at the infringement on their constitutional rights. I understand that in Oregon's current political climate, the right to bear arms is not popular, but I am advocating against restrictions on it nonetheless.

I urge the Judiciary Committee to work against creating further barriers to entry for those wishing to act in a manner consistent with the rights enshrined in the US Constitution and Bill of Rights, and to continue to uphold protections and safeguards written into the law to protect law-abiding citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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