



Lynda GROW <lynda.grow@multco.us>

Public Testimony for April 25, 2013 Meeting of Board of Commissioners 9:30 AM

1 message

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To: lynda.grow@multco.us

Wed, Apr 24, 2013 at 7:24 PM

Dear Lynda,

Please accept the following as my public testimony for the April 25th Meeting of the Board of Commissioners. Attached is my completed Public Testimony Form.

24Apr13

Dear Commissioners,

As a resident of Multnomah County, I urge you to not adopt the Firearm Safety Ordinance as written for the following reasons:

Section 15.066 puts an unreasonable burden on lower income firearms owners. I agree with the intent of the section, but not how it criminalizes citizens. I recommend this section be deleted at this time. **Encouraging responsibility through tax incentives, such as HB 3261, will save more lives than Section 15.066.** See the attached text of HB 3261 as introduced, or <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2013R1/Measures/Overview/HB3261> for more information. Please contact the House Committee On Judiciary to express your support at <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2013R1/Committees/HJUD/Overview>

HB 3261 provides tax credits for 50% of the purchase price of a gun security device, which

typically start at \$90. For our lower income citizens who own one or two pistols and struggle to pay the monthly bills, this credit is very enticing. There is also an income limit, so that it is restricted to those who may need a little help. I would suggest the 50% credit be reserved for US made goods (or a higher credit), and a smaller credit be given to imported goods. This could create jobs... Imagine if this were a Federal bill.

I would recommend that HB 3261 be supported by the Commissioners in place of 15.066. The HB will reduce state tax revenue, but I believe it would be offset by fewer calls to the police and first responders, and an increase in income taxes through sales and manufacturing jobs.

If you want to encourage good behavior, incentivize it, do not threaten penalties. We should build a better culture of safety in this country before we start cracking down on poor behavior. We could do that in a generation, and phase out the credit. When I asked why we don't do this at a recent town hall, both Senator Ginny Burdick and Penny Okamoto of Ceasefire thought this was a good idea.

Section 15.064 puts an unreasonable burden of time and finances for County citizens who carry a firearm, but do not have the need to do so concealed (i.e. they do not carry when they go into town). Many County residents are outside of cities to avoid these kinds of regulations that effectively limit their options for self defense, the way a poll tax limits the poor from voting.

Section 15.065 appears to imply that it is legal to endanger persons or property in Multnomah County. If the County has no laws against that already, that is very foolish.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Léger

Portland, OR 97215

2 attachments



Public_Testimony_Form_04-25-13.pdf

19K



hb3261intro-1.pdf

27K