

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **IP 18 - REDUCTION OF HARM FROM WEAPONS ACT**

### **STOP GUN VIOLENCE**

IP 18 reduces the number of military style assault guns from our streets and communities by restricting the future sale and manufacture of assault firearms and requiring registration of those types of weapons guns currently owned. Firearm registration laws requiring gun owners to record their ownership of a firearm, with a designated law enforcement agency, enable law enforcement to identify, disarm, and prosecute violent criminals and people illegally in possession of those firearms.

#### **What is Initiative Petition 18 (IP 18) and who is sponsoring it?**

Clergy members of all faiths, youth, advocates, and other people of good will in Oregon, gun owners and non-gun owners, have come together as a coalition to stop the carnage in our schools, our streets, and throughout our country. The coalition, "Lift Every Voice Oregon," has one goal: to make the state a safer place for all Oregonians.

IP 18 has been filed as a ballot initiative petition for the November 2022 election. IP 18 would reduce gun violence by prohibiting the future sale or transfer of semiautomatic assault-style firearms. Any of the firearms covered under IP 18 that are owned at the time the act becomes law, must be registered with the state police, sold out of state, permanently disabled, or be given to law enforcement for disposal.

#### **"Where do I sign up to volunteer or donate to IP 18?"**

To volunteer for IP 18, sign up [here](#).

#### **How does IP 18 reduce violence?**

IP 18 will substantially reduce the proliferation of assault firearms in Oregon by ending the sale or transfer of the specified firearms. People who own these firearms before the law takes effect will be able to keep those firearms if they register them and comply with the limitations on use and maintaining the firearms.

States with registration and licensing systems appear to do a better job than other states of keeping guns initially sold within the state from being recovered in crimes. ([Source](#): Webster DW, Vernick JS, Hepburn LM "Relationship between licensing, registration, and other gun sales laws and the source state of crime guns" Injury Prevention 2001;7:184-189.)

Firearm registration laws also help law enforcement retrieve firearms from persons who have become legally prohibited from possessing them due to criminal convictions or other prohibitions.

### **Where can I use my firearms?**

Under IP18, registered semiautomatic assault firearms can be used on property owned by or directly controlled by the registered gun owner. Firearms can also be used at shooting ranges, in certain competition or educational events, and can be taken to gunsmiths. All firearms must be secured when in vehicles.

### **I inherited firearms covered under IP 18. What happens then?**

Firearms covered under IP 18 can be inherited but they must be registered within 180 days of the inheritance.

### **How can I sign the petition to place IP 18 on the November 2022 ballot?**

The IP must first clear any court challenges which will be heard by the Oregon Supreme Court. We hope any challenges will be cleared at least by November 2021. As soon as the ballot title, a summary prepared by the Attorney General, is approved we will be ready to send out circulators to begin collecting the 150,000 signatures necessary to place the measure on the ballot.

### **Can I help gather signatures?**

Absolutely. We are signing up circulators now and will be providing training on several dates and in various parts of the state, as well as in zoom meetings.

### **Will people be forced to surrender their guns?**

No. IP 18 only affects certain types of semiautomatic firearms. Other firearms, like bolt-action shotguns, revolvers, and others, are not affected by IP 18.

People who legally own the firearms covered in IP 18 can register the firearms, or the firearms may also be sold out of state, permanently disabled, or given to law enforcement for disposal.

### **Does IP 18 ban ghost guns?**

IP 18 prohibits making any semiautomatic firearm that does not have a device called a security exemplar which allows metal detectors to detect guns. This includes homemade firearms and 3D printed firearms.

### **How many semiautomatic firearms are in the United States?**

Today, [one of out of every five firearms purchased in this country is an AR-style rifle](#), according to a NSSF estimate. Americans now [own an estimated 15 million AR-15s](#), gun

groups say. New AR-15 style guns range widely in price, from about \$500 to more than \$2,000. Source: [NBC News](#)

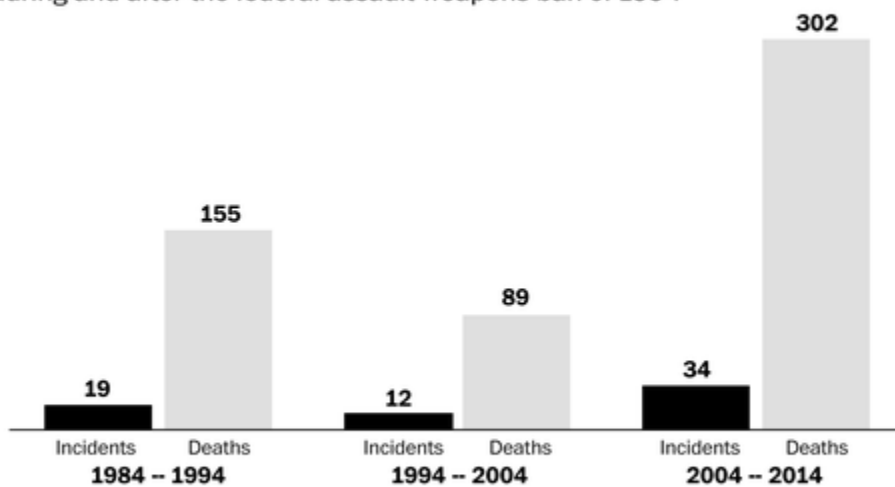
### How will this protect Oregonians?

When access to assault weapons is restricted, deaths due to mass shootings decrease. A 2014 study found that “both state and federal assault weapons bans have statistically significant and negative effects on mass shooting fatalities.” Everytown for Gun Safety, Assault Weapons Bans on Public Mass Shootings,” Applied Economics Letters 22, no. 4 (2014): 281-284, <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13504851.2014.939367>.

For his 2016 book “[Rampage Nation](#),” Louis Klarevas collected data on every gun massacre – which he defines as six or more people shot and killed – for the 50 years before 2016. His aim was to see whether there was any change in the number of gun massacres while the 10-year federal ban on assault weapons (1994-2004) was in place.

### Gun massacres fell during the assault weapons ban

Gun massacre (6+ deaths) incidents and fatalities in the decades before, during and after the federal assault weapons ban of 1994



Source: Louis Klarevas  
WAPO.ST/WONKBLOG

He calls the results “staggering.” Compared with the 10-year period before the ban, the number of gun massacres during the ban period fell by 37 percent, and the number of people dying from gun massacres fell by 43 percent. But after the ban lapsed in 2004, the numbers shot up again – an astonishing 183 percent increase in massacres and a 239 percent increase in massacre deaths. [Source: [Washington Post](#)]

### Is IP 18 constitutional?

Yes. Seven other states (HI, CA, NJ, NY, MD, MA, CT) and the District of Columbia already have similar laws banning assault firearms. In November 2017, the US Supreme

Court [rejected a challenge to Maryland's assault weapons ban](#). The Supreme Court left in place a federal appeals court ruling that upheld the law that does not permit the sale of a range of semi-automatic weapons and large-capacity magazines.

US Supreme Court Justice Alito stated in the [McDonald](#) decision from 2010: "It is important to keep in mind that Heller, while striking down a law that prohibited the possession of handguns in the home, recognized that the right to keep and bear arms is not "a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose."

### **Is IP 18 divisive or controversial?**

No. A [Quinnipiac Poll](#) from February 2018 showed that 67% of Americans support an outright ban on the sale of assault rifles.

### **Why doesn't the Oregon legislature pass this as a bill?**

The Oregon legislature did not pass a similar bill (HB 3200) in 2013 after the Clackamas Town Center and Sandy Hook shootings. They have not been willing to address this issue since then. In fact, they failed to even grant a hearing on HB 3223 in 2019, seeking a ban on assault weapons.

### **The problem isn't guns, it's mental illness.**

About 4% of all [violent crime is committed by people who could be adjudicated mentally ill](#). We must help those people. (Note, however, that the NRA has not.) If we only focus on that 4%, however, we completely ignore the other 96% who are committing violent crimes. In addition, people who suffer from mental illness are far more likely to be victims of a crime than to commit a crime.

### **Will I be required to register all my guns?**

No. Only the semiautomatic firearms described in the initiative will be affected. Firearms described in IP 18 which are owned at the time the act becomes effective must be either registered with the state, sold out of state, permanently disabled or can be given to law enforcement for disposal.

### **Gun laws just don't work.**

[States with easier access to legal guns](#) rank higher on an aggregated scale of indicators that includes gun-related homicides, suicides.

In 12 states where child access prevention laws had been in effect for at least one year, unintentional firearm deaths fell by 23% from 1990-94 among children under 15 years of

age. Peter Cummings et al., State Gun Safe Storage Laws and Child Mortality Due to Firearms, 278 JAMA 1084, 1084 (Oct. 1997)

In 2007, Missouri repealed its permit-to-purchase (PTP) handgun law, which required all handgun purchasers to obtain a license verifying that they have passed a background check. The repeal of that law contributed to a sixteen percent increase in Missouri's murder rate, according to a study from researchers with the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research. Science Daily, [Repeal of Missouri's background check law associated with increase in state's murders](#), February 15, 2014

### **Which firearms are included?**

This initiative would ban certain firearms defined by the initiative as semiautomatic assault firearms. Specifically, the initiative would prohibit the manufacture, import, sale, purchase, transfer, or possession of the following:

- A semiautomatic assault firearm is a selective-fire rifle capable of fully automatic, semiautomatic or burst fire at the option of the user;
- A semiautomatic, centerfire rifle that has an ability to accept a detachable magazine and has at least one of the following:
  - A folding or telescoping stock;
  - Any grip of the rifle, including a pistol grip, a thumbhole stock or any other stock, the use of which would allow an individual to grip the rifle in a manner resulting in any finger on the trigger hand, in addition to the trigger finger, being below any portion of the action of the rifle when firing;
  - A forward pistol grip;
  - A flash supporter; or
  - A grenade launcher or flare launcher;
- A semiautomatic, centerfire rifle that has an overall length of less than thirty inches;
- A part or combination of parts designed or intended to convert a rifle into a semiautomatic assault firearm as described directly above or that can be assembled into a semiautomatic assault firearm as described directly above.
- A semiautomatic pistol that has a fixed magazine that is capable of holding more than ten rounds or a semiautomatic pistol that has the capacity to accept a detachable magazine and any one of the following:
  - A threaded barrel, capable of accepting a flash suppressor, forward handgrip or silencer;
  - A second handgrip;

- A shroud that is attached to, or partially or completely encircles, the barrel that allows the bearer to fire the weapon without burning the bearer's hand, except a slide that encloses the barrel;
  - The capacity to accept a detachable magazine at some location outside of the pistol grip; or
  - A stabilizing brace or any similar component.
- A semiautomatic shotgun that has both of the following:
  - A folding or telescoping stock; and
  - A pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the weapon, thumbhole stock or vertical handgrip.
- A semiautomatic shotgun that has a fixed magazine that is capable of holding more than ten rounds or a semiautomatic shotgun that has:
  - The ability to accept a detachable magazine; or
  - A revolving cylinder.
- The description includes any type, series, or model of firearm that is a variation, with minor differences, of a firearm model described in IP 18, regardless of the manufacturer.
- The description includes any semiautomatic assault firearm that is not detectable as 3.7 ounces of 17-4 PH of stainless steel, or as the security exemplar defined in 18 USC 922(p), by a walk-through metal detector or magnetometer after all parts other than major components have been removed or that includes a major component that, if the firearm were subjected to inspection by the types of X-ray machines or detection devices commonly used at airports for security screening, would not generate an image that accurately depicts the shape of the component.
- A semiautomatic assault firearm does not include antique firearms as defined in ORS 166.210 or any firearm that has been made permanently inoperable.
- The initiative would establish exceptions for government officials, military personnel, and police officers, using those firearms in direct relationship to their official duties. It would also not cover otherwise banned firearms if they are made permanently inoperable.

**What is a detachable magazine?**

A detachable magazine is an ammunition feeding device that can be loaded or unloaded while detached from a firearm and readily inserted into a firearm. A fixed magazine is an ammunition feeding device contained in, or permanently attached to, a firearm in such a manner that the device cannot be removed without disassembly of the firearm action. See IP 43, Section 3(H)(4) and (5).

### **Do other states require registration of firearms?**

Six states and the District of Columbia require registration of some or all firearms. Hawaii, which has one of the [lowest firearm death rates](#) in the entire country, and the District of Columbia require the registration of all firearms, California maintains a database of gun transfer records, and New York requires the registration of all handguns through its licensing law. Hawaii, New York, and four other states also have a registration system for certain highly dangerous firearms, such as assault weapons. These states generally ban such firearms, but allow the continued possession of grandfathered weapons if they were owned before the ban was adopted and are registered. (Source: [Giffords](#))