



LIFT EVERY VOICE OREGON
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PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FROM
Lift Every Voice Oregon
Measure 114 Ruling

Harney County Judge Robert Raschio issued a decision today refusing to implement any part of Measure 114.

Lift Every Voice Oregon is disappointed by the ruling against Measure 114, though it is not unexpected based on Judge Raschio's initial ruling last December and his exclusion of certain evidence and other rulings during the September trial. We are thankful that the matter may now move forward in the appeals process.

"Measure 114 was passed into law over a year ago," said Rev. Dr. Mark Knutson, one of Measure 114's chief petitioners. Knutson added. "Voters were clear that these life-saving policies should be the law in Oregon. We know these policies have been upheld by courts in other states and, though we anticipated Judge Raschio would rule the way he did, we have been preparing for the appellate process for some time now. We are ready to move forward in the Court of Appeals and even the Oregon Supreme Court to get 114 implemented."

Chief Petitioner Marilyn Keller stated, "The people of Oregon took the work of reducing gun violence into their own hands because so little was being done. Measure 114 provides the two most effective changes, supported by evidence-based studies, for reducing gun-related homicides and suicides. The delay in reaching this decision has been far too long. It is time to take action. We are eagerly looking forward to working through the legal process so we can finally implement a law that will save lives."

Rabbi Michael Cahana, the third chief petitioner, added, "Everyone at Lift Every Voice Oregon is grateful to Attorney General Rosenblum and her skilled attorneys and staff for their tireless efforts to make Measure 114 fully operational. They carved a clear path in the federal court, which approved full implementation. We look forward to their further efforts in state court to achieve a similar result as soon as possible."

Oregon's Measure 114 was passed in November 2022 through Oregon's initiative petition process. The law requires prospective firearm buyers to receive a permit to purchase a firearm. The process includes hands-on training and a completed background check. The law also bans the future sale or purchase of firearm magazines containing more than ten rounds.

In July 2023, Federal Judge Karin Immergut ruled that Measure 114 was permitted under the US Constitution. Judge Immergut carefully analyzed each provision, as written, and determined the changes did not unduly interfere with individual rights.

Although the test under the Oregon Constitution is slightly different, the Oregon Supreme Court has held that the right to bear arms is not “absolute” and “reasonable regulations” to promote public safety are “constitutionally permissible.” Measure 114 provides “reasonable regulations” and Judge Raschio’s hold on these regulations since December 2022 should be removed. The importance of having these changes in place cannot be denied or further delayed.

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