

Good Morning Representatives, Mr. Chairman,

My name is Mark Callahan. I am a gun owner, NRA member, and I live in South Salem. I am here today to advocate for HB 3009, and against HB 3114. As I stated, in the previous Senate hearing last Friday, April 5th, against SB 347, the 2nd Amendment to the US Constitution states that “the right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed”. The word “infringed” according to most thesauruses is synonymous with the words “encroach”, “meddle”, “restrict”, and “violate”.

In regards to HB 3009, to which I support and encourage a Yes vote on, provides certain persons with the right to possess a firearm on college or university grounds, inclusive of CHL Holders. I support this bill because, unlike the other bills heard last week, it does not strip a citizen’s right to defend themselves away from them, nor does it create a “gun free zone”. As you are aware, the killer in the Colorado movie theater shootings purposely sought out a “gun free zone” movie theater to carry out his acts of terror. “Gun Free Zones” are a bad idea, by eliminating a citizen’s right to defend themselves against those that would cause harm, death, and terror to all of us. With all due respect to our men and women serving in law enforcement, I am reminded of the old saying, “when seconds count, the police are minutes away”.

In regards to HB 3114, this is left wing extremist liberal government elitism at its worst. This is a long, 66 page, bill specifying the provision of a police department at OHSU, and what the operating requirements are. But, hidden on page 65, Section 71, where they didn’t think we would notice, relating to nothing else in the bill, is a section authorizing any college or university in Oregon to ban concealed carry, including by those who are licensed. This is truly despicable behavior, Representative Dembrow. The very fact that the sponsors of this bill won’t even put their individual names on the bill tells me, and the citizens of Oregon, that they are too chicken to be accountable to those that they are supposed to be representing, for fear of the consequences at election time, when they are trying to get re-elected. When has government gone from representing the people, to representing the lust for power, and self-interest of being re-elected? Violent criminals will not follow this law, if passed, that is why they are criminals. Please vote No on HB 3114. Thank you.