

Senate Bill 897.

When I first read the bill I was assuming it was a knee jerk reaction to the problem last year at the wildlife refuge near Burns OR. But on further reading I see a danger on how the wording can be interpreted.

After reading this bill I find it amazing how poorly it is worded. A law enforcement officer asks a group of two or more people to leave a publicly owned premises. Under Section B they have 48 hours to obey that order. But under Section C, those individuals would be guilty of a Felony if they happen to have a firearm on them. It totally cancels out the previous section.

This bill is nothing but a piece of legislation that targets a gun owner. Making a criminal to someone who may be on public land and not realizing they are in a wrong area. Under this Bill instead of being informed by a law enforcement officer that they need to leave. They are automatically guilty of a felony offense while that officer informs them of that fact.

If this bill was even written to avoid the unpleasant act of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in the future. It is a poorly written bill. And needs clarification. I urge this committee to either vote NO on this measure or redraft a more defined measure in the future.

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