

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I must urge you to pass all measures under consideration today, Thursday July 30th and tomorrow, Friday July 31st. The measures are LC 742, LC 743, LC 744, LC 745, LC 746, and LC 748.

In the last two months in Portland, we've seen journalists targeted with kinetic rounds, tear gassed, and physically assaulted in flagrant violation of their first amendment rights to report. No one was held accountable.

Innocent protesters who are simply standing around have been abducted, beaten, and gassed. No one was held accountable.

A Navy vet's hands were broken by batons and a civilian's skull was fractured as they both stood by, non violently engaging law enforcement. No one was held accountable.

These measures to limit the use of, let's face it, lethal munitions and use of force, require the reporting of misconduct and the posting of disciplinary records, force officers to identify themselves, and conduct arbitration using neutral third parties are a notable step in the right direction to keep Oregonians safe, especially BIPOC individuals, and protect our rights.

Some people have to be afraid all the time that the violations mentioned above might happen to them because of their color or appearance. What many white Oregonians have experienced in the last few weeks is the reality for BIPOC Oregonians every day. Not only will these measures protect free speech, but they'll help to enforce racial justice for all Oregonians. Please vote yes!

Ryan Schuster