

Representatives:

All people, everywhere, have a right to live -- even where it is not acknowledged by their government. Implicit in that right to live is the right to defend one's own life, and the lives of others: if you have a right to live, but are denied the right to defend your life, then effectively that nullifies your right to live by being defenseless against attack. These are a fundamental, inherent human rights, seldom acknowledged, but universal.

The 2nd amendment acknowledges the right to defend life in the U.S. Constitution, and Article 1, section 27, repeats this acknowledgment in the Oregon Constitution. Impediments to that right, for any reason, are attacks against the lives of the law abiding citizen, but do nothing to restrain the lawless person. Why would government seek to tilt the balance of power toward the lawless, when most of the time lawless acts are done with no one to defend life except the victim?

There is no excuse for denying the exercise of the fundamental human right of self-defense without due process, in this case a hearing before a judge where a defense may be presented. It is unconstitutional to render a person defenseless without just cause, properly adjudicated.

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