

April 1, 2019

Members of the [Senate Judiciary Committee](#):

Because you can does not mean you should! The super majority carries a great deal of responsibility to practice respect and reason and to focus on governing not just getting reelected.

I have sent several letters to members of the Oregon Legislature detailing a more balance view Gun Deaths and their related causes. I hope all of you had the courtesy to read my letters. If not, please do before you move forward on 2nd amendment issues. Please consider how the media's portrayal of "gun violence" is superficial and does not deal with the suicide issue and its disconnection from guns. The WHO data by country shows countries with highly restrictive gun laws have materially the same suicide rate as the US ... suicide is not a gun issue it is a mental health issue.

Cities and states with the most restrictive laws have some of the highest rates of true gun violence ... laws inhibit the law abiding with little effect on the lawless.

If you do not hunt or participate in the shooting sports, please don't move forward with actions without knowledge and respect of those who do.

The trendy "one death is too many" also goes for citizens who are unable to defend themselves and their families during a mugging, robbery, home invasion, or other "bad guy" incidents becoming deaths. If I am not allowed to defend myself on certain properties, do the folks who prohibit my right to defend myself and my family accept responsibility if I am killed or severely injured when defending myself could have neutralized the situation. Who picks up financial responsibly for my family?

Please show respect and reason ... do not make me a felon.

Respectfully,
Jim Tuttle