

Dear Senators,

This bill is a complete and utter assault on second amendment rights.

Besides the text itself, the fact this was written very plainly and then modified SUBSTANTIALLY is a red flag to me. It seems to express that the authors dont want the other side of the issue to have the ability to speak their points.

The problem with firearms issues is that people constantly blame the weapon and not the criminal. The fear of what one doesn't understand is a human feature that protects us all. But if these anti gun spokespeople would actually honestly listen, I feel we could have an intelligent discussion on the matter.

If you look at the data on "mass shootings" and firearms crime in general, and remove suicides from the data, you will see that they occur most often in "gun free zones". Why then should we expand these gun free zones? These places are intentionally targeted by criminals as places where easy prey congregate. They have a weapon and know that everyone else there doesn't. Making a gun free zone without adding some kind of physical barrier around it, is an exercise in futility. Criminals dont care about laws by definition. They are rarely deterred by signs.

Also, if you look at the same data, how frequently do you see concealed handgun licensees committing these acts of violence? It's far more rare than you probably think, bordering on never. People granted the privilidge of carrying concealed in the state should be seen as potential heroes, not treated as criminals.

This is a blatant attack on the second amendment and the constitution of our State. I would ask that you please listen to the testimony of both sides, and realize that this proposed bill is driven not by logic and reason, but by fear and lack of understanding.

Thank you for your time,
Erik Wright, public servant, and lifelong resident of Oregon