

My name is Gerold Floyd and I am a citizen of Dallas, Oregon in Polk county. Committee members I am writing today to express my opposition to SB978.

While I understand that news and social media would lead the public to believe that firearms are to blame for recent incidents of horrible criminal acts, I submit that it is the people who are responsible for those acts. As such, the issue at hand is what is causing people to commit such acts? The real crisis in America and in Oregon is one of mental health and those who cannot associate such actions and their outcomes with consequences. We live in an age where video games glorify killing without consequence and a reset button, while in real life there is no reset button.

The Constitution is clear in the 2nd amendment, the right to bear arms shall not be infringed. Americans have the right to have access to arm themselves to defend themselves and their families. The provisions on SB 978 would seek to destroy the very foundation of providing a defense against those that choose to ignore the law, thereby making more people a victim.

If government has failed to "protect" citizens from the crimes associated with drugs then how could it possibly seek to protect us from those criminals who currently break the law by performing these horrendous acts against other citizens? It cannot, which is why the Constitution provides that people shall have the right to protect themselves.

While I understand that some people experience incredible tragedy when a child comes into possession of a firearm unsupervised, and the public reaction is to make sure that can never happen again it must not come at the expense of a constitutional right. A child can obtain the keys to a parents car and can inflict the same or worse damage with that vehicle as they do with a firearm, but nobody is proposing taking away citizens vehicles or requiring the keys to be secured while in your home. That would be absurd, well that is exactly what is being proposed for firearms in this bill.

I urge you to vote no for this bill and any associated amendments.

Thank you,

Gerold Floyd
Dallas, Oregon

Sent from my iPhone