

My testimony yesterday would've been very different than what you read in this written one. I see a bigger picture today, especially after hearing the testimonies of others who were both for and against this bill yesterday. I've come to an absolutely different conclusion.

The problem runs deeper.

How many of our young children are on psychotropic drugs. I invite you to check the statistics and the side effects of those drugs (suicide being one). How many children suffer from depression, bullying, being social outcasts, domestic violence and just plain poor parenting? Our child welfare system is full of them, right?

Salem's fire department instituted a program that taught every eighth grader how to do CPR. If such a program could be put in place to teach CPR, a life saving procedure, what about a program teaching compassion and empathy, how to come to an adult when they have problems, simple gun safety courses put on by our retired law enforcement community. Fixing the leak at its source makes more sense and would provide a long term solution for generations to come.

I would hope that this committee also sees this larger picture and doesn't become so invested in the prepared legislation that they refuse to look at the various sources of the problem. We cannot continue to fix a water leak by repairing the place where the water "collects" and eventually rots our societal structure. We cannot legislate criminals, morality, stupidity or commonsense. SB 978 tries to do all of those things while also making criminals out of law-abiding citizens.

The constitution is clear, the Second Amendment shall not be infringed upon - period. But that's exactly what this legislation is doing - infringing, encumbering law abiding citizens.

Our elected officials can't sit in an office and write legislation to fix these problems or we will rot from the inside out.

There were enough people there yesterday opposing this bill to suggest that it would be very unwise to press this forward using the idea that this is an emergency and circumventing our rights as voters.

Thank you,

Cheryl Greenlee ☼ ♡

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Hack LIFE; replace all obstacles with LOVE ☼ ♡ ☼

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The Lord opens doors where we only see walls.