

Honorable Judiciary Committee Members,

Please forgive the mass email to all, but my comment, I feel, is very important and need to be addressed to all of you.

Please know that I am not some crackpot. I am a lifelong Oregonian, retired from both Law Enforcement and the US Army. I am pro 2nd Amendment, but my feelings go beyond just the 2A. LAWS NEEDS TO BE TEMPERED WITH FAIRNESS TO THE LAW ABIDING;

AND CRIMINALS NEED TO BE HELF FULLY ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR CRIMINAL ACTS.

I am respectfully requesting you to oppose SB 978 in its entirety. This bill will do nothing except punish the law abiding firearms owners of Oregon, when the laws should be punishing the criminals who commit crimes with the use of or possession of a firearm; as well as the attempted and actual illegal purchases of firearms. *Punish those who are the "bad guys" not the law abiding.*

Yes, proper purchase is important. Yes, proper storage is important. And they, and other issues, can be addressed, but fairly.

ENHANCE the penalties for ANY CRIME where a firearm or weapon was used or even possessed during commission. *Mandatory minimums* for the same. Tell the District Attorneys to DO THEIR JOB and prosecute firearms crimes, not kiss them away or dismiss on plea bargains. The DA's are so worried about their win/loss record that makes them look good. **How about crime control instead.** Show the bad guy dirt bags they are gonna go down for crimes committed with a, or, in possession of, firearms.

Punish the "straw buyer" and those who steal firearms severely. There are ways to reduce the violence without unfair treatment.

As to suicide with a firearm. Well, suicide is gonna happen, no matter if firearms are banned or not. If the person is "hell-bent" on suicide, they will find a way to complete the task.

And I am sure you have heard it before, but to ban firearms for gun violence, means you must ban alcohol for alcohol related crimes; vehicles for vehicle related crimes, knives for knife related crimes; and it can go on and on.

I sincerely hope you cogitate on my comments, and any comments by others who may feel similar, in making your decision. Just review the rally held this last weekend. Look at the diversity and not a single incident. Bikers to businessmen, all genders, colors, religions, etc. Law abiding owners or pro-2A. Doesn't that make you think?

I would be pleased and honored to talk with any of you on this, or any of the firearms matters in legislature.

Thank you very much for your time.

Steve Muller

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