

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in opposition to HB4005 in the Oregon State Legislature. I recognize this bill for what it's practical application will be, an attempt to punish the law abiding and to make expression of a civil right as onerous as possible for the law abiding citizens of Oregon.

Often legislation such as this ends up creating scenarios where government uses force to make life even more difficult for people who just want to live their lives in peace. My brother in law is an example. He lives in an RV a half hour drive from the town he grew up in and can no longer afford to live in because of housing costs. He is an avid hunter and gun collector and keeps a gun with him for self defense. He lives in a rural area on the boundary of a national monument. Under the proposed legislation, he would be criminally punished if someone breaks in to his trailer while he's gone to work 30 miles away. The trailer is too small to house any type of safe so a real criminal can break a window or door and steal his easily defeated trigger locked guns, commit a crime with them and then likely get off with a slap on the wrist. Rest assured however, that the local DA will punish my now felonious brother in law to the fullest extent of the law.

This proposed law defies common sense. It is the result of misplaced rage over the Clackamas shooting and has no place in a civil society. Criminals who break into a locked home have already defeated the primary and most effective security device. Honestly, there are few safes that can't be breached within a short period of time, certainly while the homeowners are away at work much less any type of trigger lock. Ask your law enforcement advisors about trigger locks. Or have your average teen show you.

The law will be largely unenforceable and will serve to further alienate the voting citizens from what appears to be a tone deaf political leadership. I encourage you to avoid making the law abiding citizens of this state the problem further dividing us from each other. Reject HB4005 and focus on things that will make a difference not what out of state lobby money is asking you to do.

Sincerely,

Ronald A. Alvarez