

Hello

As a gun owner for over 50 years, I am well aware of safety issues surrounding guns. I have owned over 200 firearms and not once was one stolen or used in a crime. I have been a member of several organizations, NRA, Guns net, Gun broker, NW firearms, and even possessed an FFL for 6 years. During all this time sharing my hobby, shooting with friends, family and strangers one thing stood out with each and every one of them. Each and every one believed/believes, in the United States constitution and the sanctity of the individual rights enabled by its enactment because it was an instrument created to protect the people from the inevitable over reach of people elected to serve the people.

Our country was created by men passionately opposed to the tyranny the English kings and living their lives as lesser beings to the monarchy. We have evolved a long way since the inception of this country and been responsible for so much good around the world. But with the growth comes the power needed to organize and insure laws and those who see themselves as the great protectors. This self image albeit a noble cause, often leads to the erroneous belief that more and more laws are needed to "control" the masses rather than to protect or insure prosperous times. We now find ourselves in a country so deeply divided many legislators find themselves no longer considering what is logical, ethical or relevant for the common good, but siding or even hiding, with the political party whose path they chose so many years ago. The loss of the independent thinking usually falls into two categories:

ideological blindness or preservation of the political power be it collectively or individually. The people on both sides outside the realm of the insider, clearly see those who have lost their way but rarely confront it for the sake of going along to get along.

This house bill and the others similarly pointed at disseminating the 2nd amendment are not seen by the general public as a way to help the common voter but as another attack on the rights of the taxpaying hard working honest good people. The people who have done nothing wrong yet are being put in the rifle sights of a one sided, politically blinded, ideologically outsider influenced, on the individual rights secured in the constitution of not only the United states, but the state of Oregon's own {Article 1, Section 27 of the Oregon Constitution states: "The people shall have the right to bear arms for the defense [sic] of themselves, and the State} and supported by *State v. Delgad*,

This continued assault on the second amendment is seen as death by 1000 paper cuts and has resulted in greater and greater resistance from law abiding gun owners who feel they are being pushed into a corner. While I would never advocate violent behavior, the general consensus I have observed is Molon Labe which loosely translated means "come and take them" referring to taking of gun, gun rights and/or the liberties guaranteed by our constitutions. Laws like the ones proposed in this years legislative session are cementing the foundations of patriotic non-violent good and decent people to finally take a stand. The principals and beliefs generated by the simple

text of the 2nd amendment are that it protects the people from over reach and infringements, and it does it by the threat of and/or the actual use violence. The legislators often fail to realize the state of the people which was exemplified in 2016 and the election of Donald Trump. I sincerely hope this and the other draconian gun laws fail. Passage will place patriots and the officers tasked with enforcing laws they often disagree with, at risk.

While I realize many legislators will blindly follow their party leaders, I ask them to remind themselves of what they are tasked with and that is to support the constitution in every single bill and ignore the will and all the money that flows from outside tyrants such as Mike Bloomberg and George Soros who do not care about Oregonians but simply expanding their power by buying local souls.

Thanks for the time. I hope your mind and soul follow your task leaving outside money and influence at the borders. Follow not the lobbyist but the people of the state, the whole state and show them a little respect. Tell them you trust them to do the right thing.

"Integrity is at your core, do not fail yourself at the risk of becoming irrelevant"

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