

Comments Regarding HB-4005

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the committee on this proposed bill.

What troubles me most in this topic of gun violence is that guns are inanimate objects. They do nothing in and of themselves. They are no more capable of voluntary or involuntary violence than any number of objects you and I could name.

The truth is, violence is something that requires either an act of God, usually accomplished through what we call nature, or an act of man. Violence on God's part is above our pay-grade. Violence on man's part, however, is precisely why government exists. Government's work is to punish the wicked and reward law-biding citizens.

That is where HB-4005 fails to meet the test, for it seeks to criminalize and punish law-biding citizens up to two years, plus fines, for the wicked and violent acts of those who care not about the law! This is not justice, this is negligent malfeasance on the part of duly elected representatives of the people of Oregon. This bill seeks to tie the hands of law-biding individuals and families who under the 2nd Amendment of our nation's Constitution have the right to keep and bear arms for their safety and protection, for hunting and competition, or just for the sport of it.

I urge this committee to kill this bill on behalf of all the law-biding citizens in Oregon! Thank you very much.