

Dear House Committee on Health Care,

As a medical professional, small business owner, and a firearm owner, I am completely shocked at the Committee's choice to spend the time writing HB 2150. While local businesses are being shut down to to Covid 19, suicides and depression are on the rise due to lockdown induced stress, and the state of Oregon has had over 156,000 cases of Covid 19 (Per State website: govstatus.egov.com), the Committee found time to write this bill?

Page 2, line 12 states that "everyone has the right to be free from gun violence". What about having the right to gather, exercise, run one's business, or go to school? What about the human trafficking that flows through our Interstate highways? Of all the issues that are currently plaguing our state, I don't hear anyone complaining about gun violence. Perhaps the Committee on Health Care should delegate some time towards actual health care? Covid 19, Mental health cases filling up our state Emergency Rooms (ER), marijuana related ER visits, drug overdoses, smoking cessation, obesity, and anything else related to actual human health would be beneficial. Leave the firearm related issues up to the persons who actually know something about firearms and said issues, like the numerous County Sheriffs throughout the State of Oregon.

Breaking down the facts available to the public on the Clackamas Town Center shooting, it appears that the murderer may have 'borrowed' the firearm, and of course after the sad events the person whom it was borrowed from would never state it was borrowed, but rather state it was stolen. Sources, including his (ex) girlfriend state he seemed depressed just prior to the shooting. Perhaps there was some drug induced depression?

What would have happened if he would have stolen a car (or used his own legally owned vehicle) and ran over 20 persons on a busy sidewalk? We should hold the car's owner liable? Why do we not hold Coor's light liable when a drunk driver runs over a child?

I would find it refreshing to see a bunch of state legislators whom actually tried to enforce laws that we currently have on the books.

Currently illegal in the state of Oregon:

Murder (by knife, gun, poison, strangulation or any other means).

Rape.

Theft.

Possession of a firearm by a felon.

Assault.

Should not we focus on the crimes that we cannot already control? Perhaps we should focus on the actual crime that was committed rather than the weapon used.