

Chair and members of the committee-

I have over 20 years of experience in occupational safety. In that field, we understand the concept that humans are just not all that good at assessing risk. That's why the Oregon Lottery rakes in the dough, and why the Oregon legislature pursues gun legislation based on emotion and not data.

2510 furthers that pattern, but ups the ante with some unworkable and unenforceable lawmaking as a substitute for personal responsibility. Any time you carve out exceptions to our right to defend ourselves with something like "open windows", you know you've gone beyond reason.

Speaking of the ability to reason, I have to point out that some of the same legislators sponsoring this unwarranted attack on the most law abiding amongst us, are some of the very same people trying to ram through proposals to legalize pimping, defund the police and most significantly "reform" measure 11 sentencing. Basically, they want to let felons out early, despite their recidivism rate of 57%. But sure, let's punish crime victims instead. Folks, you can't make this up- this is gaslighting. Don't take my word for it - ask the Attorney General what's the bigger risk in our state- felon repeat offenders or firearms owned by Oregon State Police-approved gun owners.

That said- I care about safety (it's my career of choice), so I would like to offer a suggestion:

Let's gut and stuff this bill, and double the penalties for stealing a firearm. Everybody listening to this everybody -whatever side they're on- knows beyond a doubt that would have a greater positive impact on reducing gun violence than going after citizens for opening a window on a hot summer night.

Finally, my opposition is not because I'm irresponsible or don't care, but because part of risk management is identifying patterns- look at the sponsor list and their histories, and ask yourself if this is stand-alone legislation or just another part of a wider gun control agenda.