

Under the current law that this legislation aims to repeal, law enforcement consistently make the determination that assemblies or protests are unlawful prior to those protests becoming violent or destructive. In doing so, law enforcement quickly and brutally attack and arrest nonviolent protestors and journalists in violation of the 1st and 4th Amendments under the guise of breaking up an unlawful assembly. It is up to the Oregon State Legislature to protect the right of any person in Oregon to protest peacefully without fear of persecution. This legislation protects our right to protest peacefully and does not actually decriminalize any illegal behaviors, as the concept of an "unlawful assembly" is arbitrary and capricious.