

NORTHEAST NEIGHBORS 555 Liberty Street SE, Rm 305 Salem, OREGON 97301

(503) 588-6207 www.salemnen.org

March 21, 2021

To the Oregon Senate:

Northeast Neighbors Neighborhood Association (NEN) in Salem, Oregon strongly supports the modification of state statutes to allow a municipality or local town the option to adopt an ordinance to limit the possession of firearms in public buildings, public spaces, and municipal parks.

Northeast Salem neighborhoods have experienced many shootings, which sadly included two youth being killed in Englewood Park and Hoover Park. We want to advocate for families and individuals in our community to be able to enjoy being in public spaces without fear or intimidation of firearms being openly carried.

We recommend that SB 554A allow a local option to include a city's parks and public spaces adjacent to public buildings.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Lynn Takata Northeast Neighbors (NEN) Chair Salem, Oregon

Cc:

Honorable Senate President Peter Courtney Honorable Senator Ginny Burdick Honorable Governor Kate Brown Honorable Mayor Chuck Bennett