

Once again, I am compelled to stand up and say the Legislature, and that includes both parties, are way over the line in their actions.

The people of HD23 voted for Mike Nearman and did so overwhelmingly. They chose their representative, while I understand that the steps the American left are willing to take to silence opposing points of view typically exceed most Americans pain threshold, the expulsion of a House Representative for 2 ALLEGED misdemeanors goes far beyond that.

Arguably Representative Witt's behavior makes Representative Nearman look like a saint, so why is one facing expulsion and the other barely received a slap on the hand? The answer is obvious, this is politics and not justice. Representative Nearman's point of view has been a pain in the side of the Democrats and let us admit it, some Republicans, for a while now. Whether a person agrees with him or not, no one should be silenced because of their point of view.

Where are the politicians who say "I may not agree with what you have to say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." I am old enough to remember a day that phrase was almost a slogan for one of our National Parties.

Many a politician in Salem have played an active roll in encouraging demonstration throughout Oregon for their pet cause. Some of those demonstrations have turned violent and led to deaths here in Oregon. Where was the outrage then? While I would not have taken the approach Nearman did, and assuming he let them in on purpose, Representative Nearman's cause was that the capitol belongs to the people and they were being shut out. He did voice his frustration on that point several times in the weeks and months leading up to this.

Ultimately, the people are the ones who chose who governs in our system. When politicians step into that role we have entered a very dangerous place and time for the country. We are walking on the very edge of fascism. Unless the crime of the Representative is severe, it frankly should not even be entertained. Since state law defines the ALLEGED infractions as misdemeanors any rational human would understand this is not a severe crime necessitating the invalidating of the will of the voters.

All need to vote no, you could be next.