



FAMILY FORWARD
OREGON

Smart policies for today's families.

DA: June 10, 2021
TO: House Special Committee on Dec 21
RE: In Support of House Resolution 3

Chair Holvey, Members of the House Special Committee on December 21,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Resolution 3. As an organization that advocates on behalf of mothers and caregivers, often bringing them to their Capitol, we take their safety and wellbeing very seriously. Representative Nearman has made it clear that he does not.

As revealed by security footage, media investigations, and his own admissions, Representative Nearman planned and executed what he called "Operation Hall Pass," which was a coordinated action that let armed, violent attackers through the doors of the State Capitol when it was closed due to COVID transmission risk. In doing so he put the safety of every single person working in the state capitol that day at risk.

The attack left people injured and endangered the lives of everyone in the State Capitol that day. Nearman's planned attack on democracy here in Oregon was a sickening foreshadow of the attack that would be echoed in Washington, D.C. on January 6.

We join organizations across the state and a bipartisan group of legislators in calling for the resignation or removal of Rep. Mike Nearman. Representative democracy depends on everyone's ability to feel safe in the place where policies are made. We are horrified at Nearman's actions, which caused deeply unsafe conditions and will have a lasting legacy of fear if we don't act swiftly and with resolution.

Our lawmakers need to prioritize the safety of their constituents and colleagues and expel Rep. Nearman if he doesn't resign immediately.

Andrea Paluso
Executive Director

Courtney Helstein
Political Director