

Hello,

My name is Nathan Bechtold. I have worked in Law Enforcement for half of my life. During this time I have witnessed elected officials stop enforcing current laws and instead enact new laws that do nothing to address the issues our society is dealing with. I find it very interesting that the idea of restricting my Constitutional Rights will create less crime and violence. All it creates is law abiding citizens to have to decide either have the tools to protect themselves and become criminals or don't follow the law and become a criminal. The active shooter incident at Clackamas Mall was interrupted by someone who had a CCL.

I know this should be common knowledge but criminals DO NOT follow the law. Criminals are now carrying more drugs and firearms on their person than ever before. Violence is up. Over 800 shooting calls in Portland last year. I do not feel safe being in Portland. When I started in law enforcement over 20 years ago a felon caught with a firearm could be sentenced to 5 years in prison. Now it's a few days in jail.

Blaming the tool used in crime and violence instead of its cause is ludicrous. Why isn't anyone looking into what happened to get us to where we are today. Oregon ranks as one of the lowest states for access to mental health care and we have unfunded beds at the state hospitals. Homeless and drug use is out of control. Business are closing because their customers don't feel safe coming to their business. Areas of Portland and Salem look like third world counties. Citizens are scared to leave their homes. Energy should be put forward to finding long lasting solutions to these problems witch help fuel crime and violence in our communities first.

The passage of this bill will do nothing to address the violence that our communities are facing. I have had my life and my family's lives threatened a number of time by some very violent people. This limitation on the second amendment will do nothing to reduce violence. Pease vote no.