

Senate committee members

SB 554

I really don't quite understand how our State Representatives can have so little regard for the people of Oregon who continually abide by the laws already in place. SB 554 is another action to "Criminalize" law abiding Oregon gun owners. I doubt our penal system can support such an influx. Who will work and pay the taxes that "Finance" the cost of running Oregon's 14 institutions? Build More to house more? You?

Sound farfetched? Maybe, but today's society and our current Government entities are messed up. Locally and Nationally.

Since when is it "OK" to NOT honor the vows of office each individual State Representative and Senator has sworn to uphold: Like the US Constitution and the Constitution of Oregon? When is it "Righteous" to infringe upon the rights of individuals to "Keep and bear Arms" pursuant to the 2nd Amendment.

When is it justifiable to "Close the door" on those of us who want to protect ourselves, our loved ones, and our property; and create a "Free for all" for those who do not practice "Lawfulness" but practice "Lawlessness" – The Criminal Element? It's a simple word, "Criminal"....yet no one in our legislative body seems to understand what it means because they continue to want to create more laws for "Gun Control" when the "Criminal" disregards everything passed and put into law!

- What's a "Criminal": A "Criminal" First they are someone who has been convicted of a crime. (Don't follow societies' rule of order to keep the peace) To be convicted of a crime, the person would need to do an act that was "illegal". Someone who practices felonious, illegal, illegitimate, illicit, lawless, unlawful, and wrongful acts are doing "Criminal Activity". "Total Disregard to any and all established rule of order: "Laws". So, what makes any of our Legislative body think they can "Stop" any criminal activity dealing with firearms of any nature by enacting more "Gun Legislation"? No matter how many laws are generated, the "Bad Guys/Gals/Gangs, etc" will continue to ignore and disregard them! Why Don't our "educated" leaders understand that?

Why is it that our "Elected Officials" are trying to make more "Victims" out of "Law Abiding" Oregonians?

By passing excessive restrictions related to firearms: You, our representatives, are essentially putting all Oregonians at risk of harm and or death; by giving free reign to the "Lawless".... Because they will have "Weapons" readily at hand – while the law abiding individual is continually being more and more restricted with the ability to have "at hand" the means to protect their life, and or maybe the life of another innocent person!

There are "Not" enough Law Enforcement officers to protect each and every one of us...and especially during this Political movement to "Defund" the Police....there will be fewer of our courage's Men and Women in Uniform who put their lives on the line every day to respond to that call of service when an Oregonian is in dire need.

You will also hamper the ability of an off duty officer from defending themselves or another, if they are present at an incident that would turn ugly if they didn't intervene: But, how would they be able to, if they also, while not in an official capacity (on duty) carry concealed to a place designated by this bill as "No Firearms" zone – for they too would be "illegally" carrying and subject to "criminal" penalty because of the language in SB 554...even if they may have "Saved" the lives of several people from a violent offender.

SB 554 hampers the ability of off duty, trained Police officers, or other Criminal Justice representatives from intervening in a violent criminal scenario; to protect themselves and or family while they are out in the community and are faced with a dangerous scenario directed at them.

Hampers the Law Abiding Oregonian; who is a responsible firearms owner, who has gone through the extensive background checks, who has applied for and cleared by the local Sheriff's Department to be a CCL holder (to carry concealed), who has completed firearms safety courses and who practices safe firearms handling; from defending self or others if violent incidents occur while out in their community, supporting the local economy: Shopping, community events, fundraiser, etc.

It "infringes" on our "Very Established Constitutional" Rights to bear arms....especially for self preservation and the protection of life of self and family no matter where in Oregon we are at any given time: Since dangerous criminal activity happens everywhere, day or night! (Keep up with the News – Civil unrest, over abundance of murders, shootings, etc. have been on the rise. More firearms have been sold in the past year than ever before, and most of them are by: First time Gun Owners! There is a message here: "No Confidence" in the ability of our law enforcement to protect people from the criminal element" and that is emphatically generated by extreme political "Overreach" to "Defund" our policing agencies, if not outright "Disband" them all together.

SB 554 is a bad and dangerous piece of legislation and needs to be tossed.

Firearm legislation has gone too far. There are plenty of regulations already on the books.

The focus of our State and local representatives should be on education, mental wellness, Gun Violence Reduction from the criminal element – establish Gang Violence diminution – Stop the import of illegal weapons from across the border or from other countries to the US.

State and Local Representatives should support our law abiding firearms owners: From those that shoot for sport to all the legally licensed sports hunters. Support our law enforcement brothers, sisters, and neighbors as well as all others within the criminal justice community. Many of whom have been threatened by violent offenders to find and "Kill them and their family". I for one have had that experience – more than once, because I am one of those Criminal Justice Professionals who "Serves to Protect" the community and the people of Oregon.

I Urge all our State and Local Representatives to "Wake Up" and look at what the grandeur Idealisms for "Gun Free Zone's" are actually creating: "Death Traps" – "Victims" – An open door (Welcome mat) for violent offenders – "Who's going to stop them? The lawless, illegally armed offender will have the upper hand: they have a weapon....the innocent, law compliant Oregonian will not...Blood will be on YOUR HANDS! If you allow this SB 554 bill to pass.

All Oregonians, no matter where we are, day or night, should have the ability to Defend In place with our elected representatives backing us: Especially since we do not have the staffing for our local, county and state peace officer to respond in time to protect us in volatile situational threats.

This is the real world we live in....Pandemic, civil unrest, Political infighting, natural disasters, increased violence.....I urge this committee for SB 554 to vote against it and toss it in the garbage...it is bad legislation!

Otherwise; would you be so kind as to finance a special security team to guard and keep my family safe while I am working to keep the citizens of Oregon safe?

Thank you for your time

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