

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher.

My name is Richard Moore from Roseburg.

I come before you in opposition to Senate bill 554.

This bill is in direct violation of every Americans Constitutional rights to protect and defend themselves. You swore an oath when you took office, as did every congressional representative, both state and federal. You swore to uphold the Constitution of the United States, and the State of Oregon. This bill infringes upon those rights.

This bill makes criminals of ordinary citizens who have already passed background checks. They are the ones we should be looked to for help when the criminals come out to commit crimes, threaten and possibly even kill defenseless victims. Instead, this bill would turn them into felons for choosing to defend both themselves, and others.

This bill would turn law abiding citizens into felons. They would lose their concealed carry permit and never be allowed to own a gun again. And yet the legislature just made it a violation to be in possession of meth and heroin.

My experience shows individuals in possession are already long term criminals, or soon will be. They commit burglaries, thefts, trespass, and often violence in their need to use drugs. Now the legislature wants to make law abiding concealed carry permit holders more of a criminal than those who possess drugs.

It is becoming increasingly clear that Congress does not care about the Oath they swore to, or the people they represent. If they did, these kinds of bills would never even be considered, let alone get out of committee.

It does not matter what an individuals personal view is on subjects like gun control, and who is right or wrong. We have both State and Federal Constitutions to guarantee every American those rights, in writing. It is not up to the legislature to play games with them, to suit their own wants and desires.

This disagreement on "gun control " has been going on a long time. And now, we have big business and wealthy individuals deciding what we can say and when; Blocking personal posts, blocking and deleting personal accounts, not presenting all of the news, just one side or not even telling the story at all, as if it never existed. This is not new, just becoming more frequent and obvious. So now not only do we need to be concerned about our Second Amendment rights, but also our First Amendment rights.

What's next? Our right to have every American citizens vote count? Illegal immigrants/aliens are given the "right" to vote just by signing up for a drivers license. Voting was supposed to be reserved for citizens. Now our votes don't count nearly so much.

Which Amendment is next?

Your jobs, as Oregon State Legislators, is to protect the rights of your constituents; our Constitutionally guaranteed rights. This bill directly violates those rights.

Thank you.