

I have been an Oregon resident for almost the entirety of my life. I have been a gun owner for the majority of my life. My primary usage for guns is for recreation/hunting. I acquired my CHL license over 10 years ago for possible protective measures, if required. Our world has not become more secure, as was evident by last summer's Black Lives Matter marches that almost on every occasion turned into violent and destructive riots. Hearing and watching news and seeing how these, so called peaceful protests, a lot of times targeted peaceful and uninvolved citizens has put me on guard for my safety and my family's safety.

I am Asian American. As a youth, I often ran into prejudice. That prejudice was mostly from older adults that fought in WWII, but that prejudice was also learned by their children. The prejudice experienced back when I was a youth was much different that what is going on today. It was mostly name calling. But as an elementary school child, I was attacked by a gang of about 6 kids my age, that beat me up, all the while a teacher sat and watched them do so and did not intervene. When you see on the news, young men attacking older Asian adults, that would have difficulty defending themselves. This to me is cowardice at its highest level and preying on the senior community. Plus over the years I have seen that crimes against law abiding citizens, even violent crimes has not gone down, but has brazenly gone up.,

A bill against law abiding citizens carrying concealed weapons, which, I believe, is a first step to eliminating the 2nd amendment right to bear arms, will only hurt the law abiding citizens. Criminals will still have access to all the guns that they want, because they do that today. This will make the black market for guns even greater and will not provide a way for law abiding citizens the ability to protect themselves.

This can be demonstrated by the recent call for defunding the police, where many municipalities substantially reduced the funding for police and eliminated critical anti-gun groups in the police department. In almost every city where I had heard that they did the defunding, violent crime has skyrocketed.

I am all for better gun control, where better background checks are performed. The limited or lack of any background checks are what allows people with criminal backgrounds are able to acquire guns where they have the purpose of inflicting harm on law abiding citizens.

I am adamantly opposed to Senate Bill 554. But I would not be opposed to a bill that would intensify the background check requirements for individuals who want to own a gun

Thank you