

Dear Chair Senator Prozanski, Vice-Chair Senator Thatcher, and Members of the Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation,

My name is Sophia Nielsen and I'm a senior at West Linn High School. I am testifying today in support of SB 554, to protect public safety and prevent gun violence in schools.

Current Oregon law permits guns on school and college campuses. As a student, this is terrifying. Not only am I scared of shootings and making the nightly news, but I know that gun violence prevention is suicide prevention. And I want to do all that I can to make West Linn High School, and Oregon, a suicide safer community.

Research shows that policies allowing guns on campuses are likely to lead to more shootings, suicides, and homicides, and that they're unlikely to prevent mass shootings on campus (Webster, 2016).

So as you consider SB 554, I urge you to protect Oregon students, prevent gun violence and prevent suicide.

Thank you,
Sophia Nielsen