

SB 554 effectively neuters a citizen's right to protect themselves with a firearm by creating an impossible-to-navigate patchwork of no-go zones.

Criminals don't pay attention to where they're assaulting an innocent person. SB554 forces an armed citizen to, when entering one of these no-go zones, assume a fantasy that somehow they're protected there...that criminals won't strike there. We of course know this is absurd.

It also risks making any law-abiding citizen risk becoming a felon for accidentally straying too close to one of these fantasy lands...you know by picking up their child from school, walking past the University of Portland or Portland State or any other school.

The reality is that criminals can and do strike anywhere, heedless of whether that zone has been declared a gun-free zone. In fact, logic would suggest that these zones are therefore the most likely targets for crime...since criminals can be sure that unless a citizen wants to become a felon, no citizen is carrying a gun there. SOFT TARGET!

End this asinine fantasy...criminals don't respect laws, and specifically target soft targets. I can't read this as anything other than a direct attempt to endanger our schools, our businesses, our government facilities, and our families by removing the ability of responsible armed citizens to carry firearms.

Concealed carry holders are statistically the least likely group of citizens to commit a violent crime...rounded to the nearest whole number, the chance of one of us committing a violent crime is ZERO!

And yet you want to pass a bill that would make this historically peaceful and law-abiding group of citizens felons by having the audacity to walk around their town.

Concealed carry permit holders pose NO threat to any innocent person...they do pose a threat to someone violently assaulting an innocent person.

If this passes, you'll publicly proclaim that "I just can't figure out why we've seen a dramatic increase in violent crime". Why? Because you didn't use your brain.

You should be ashamed.