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Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB1503

Tying gun violence to suicide prevention is absurd. They have a connection only in the fact that a firearm is used most successfully to commit a suicide. If all firearms were suddenly eliminated from Oregon, people who want to commit suicide or violence will just turn to another way of doing it. South Korea, and the other ten countries with higher suicide rates than the United States have an extremely low firearm owner rates, but yet people find a way to kill themselves with a gun. Split the two up into separate, yet essential solo categories. If you truly want to curb gun violence, enforce the current gun laws, focus on breaking street gangs, and train our youth on firearms use and safety. To reduce suicide we need to focus on the why, not the how. South Koreans are stooping to using nitrates and fertilizers to kill themselves, with women at a two to one ratio as men. They have no guns!

Oregon has a massive mental health problem, fueled by a system rife with substance use and abuse, that aids a person to commit suicide instead of preventing it. Additionally, social media giants such as Tiktok focus apps, memes, and training videos focused on suicide ideology.

It is truly sad, the effort to make victims from those that could be saved. Instead of punishing hard working legal gun owning Oregonians we should be pushing free firearms education and training starting with kindergarteners through retirement aged citizens.

Find out where the ear-marked money for drug treatment went and use it for a dual purpose; drug and suicide prevention, a win-win. No matter what, the only purpose to tie Gun Violence to Suicide Prevention is solely for political purposes, plain and simple. Shame on those whose dress this up and parade it around as a real solution. It is not nor ever will be.