

Dear Legislators and proponents of SB 978:

I implore you to PLEASE realize the magnitude of the changes you propose in SB 978 and the amendments thereto. The provisions appear to be so sweeping that they could literally turn every law abiding citizen into a felon simply by leaving their home with a firearm to go to the range or even to go on a hunting trip. Some provisions seem to be impossible to comply with. It appears that the whole purpose of this bill is to attack law abiding, gun-owning citizens. Far from addressing crime, this bill and its amendments would create a vast new class of criminals, people like us, your constituents, those of us who voted for you and count on you to set aside your emotions and forge legislative decisions based on sound judgment and facts, not hyperbole or some unattainable dream that violent crime can be legislated into obscurity by chipping away at gun rights for law abiding citizens. It may be an easy way to make it appear that you as legislators are "doing" something, when in reality you are simply placating emotions and in no way getting closer to addressing the problem of criminality. Please set aside this over-emotional response to an agenda that is focused on controlling legally purchased and licensed handguns and focus on real solutions for real problems. Focus on education. Focus on the homeless situation. Focus on Children's Services lacking in this state. Why not focus on a solution to PERS?

Please take the higher path, leave the insanity behind. Do not make Oregon citizens choose between giving up guns or becoming criminals.

Sincerely,

Melissa Berman
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