

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice-chair Thatcher, and members of the committee.

I come here in opposition of Senate Bill 554

This specific bill would do nothing but put me and other women in danger as they walk to the schools to pick up their kids, or by just driving someone to the airport, or other locations where you are trying to disarm us. This Bill would do nothing but take away from law abiding citizens and those who did everything legally to obtain their CHL (Concealed Handgun License).

I am not sure why this bill is even present. There are no current problems with any CHL holders going to any public places causing problems. You are trying to solve a problem where one does not exist. All this would do is make more law abiding citizens into criminals. You know that criminals don't get CHL's; they don't follow the laws as it is, so how is this bill even being considered?

As a woman, do you know how dangerous it is when you have to go to a college campus at 8 or 9 at night? Heck even going to campus walking down the street during early hours can cause many issues for women. How about when we have to go to work and we have to walk down dark public roads? If you look at the danger that you would put me in, you might reconsider this obnoxious bill that no one thought through.

The fact is women are more vulnerable because we are smaller than our male counterparts. When the 2nd Amendment was written it was for all citizens to bear arms. By taking my rights away from me is like saying it is okay if I get raped by a man because now I have nothing to defend myself with. Are you okay with that?

I grew up in Chicago, and I moved here in '98 because I could get firearm training and keep myself safe from being attacked.

I learned over the years how to operate and be safe with firearms. I did it so well that I realized that I needed to become a trainer to help other women. So now for the last 15 years, as an NRA instructor, I have trained hundreds of women in Southern Oregon, and all over, because they either have been attacked, or are worried about being attacked. People worry and fear for their safety and their families' safety and that is one of the reasons we carry firearms. We do this for protection from criminals. Have you seen the crime rate? Besides that, look at the statistics of crime and rape on college campuses. Many of these women that I

trained were attacked on college campuses; some reported, while others go unreported out of fear.

Now, we all know that police can't be everywhere, and we all know the response time for police to get to victims of crimes is exceedingly long and growing longer every year. Today Oregon schools (colleges) already have problems with girls getting raped, hurt or mugged. According to Kullgren, I.K, back in 2010 to 2012, Reed's college had sexual assault rates of 9.62 per 1000 students. U of O in 2012 reported 32 assaults over a three year period, Oregon State had 14 assaults over that same three year period, and Portland State had 21 assaults (Kullgren, 2014).

Rape numbers vary from year to year. We want women to be able to protect themselves and not fear their safety. So why would you want to allow a bill to be introduced to take away their right to defend themselves against their attacker/s?

| Alleged sexual assaults on Oregon campuses | | |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| School | Number, 2010-12 | Rate per 1,000 students, 2012 |
| Reed College | 35 | 9.62 |
| University of Oregon | 32 | 0.69 |
| Willamette University | 28 | 4.44 |
| Portland State University | 21 | 0.32 |
| Linfield College | 18 | 0.60 |
| Lewis & Clark College | 16 | 1.89 |
| Oregon State University | 14 | 0.15 |
| Southern Oregon University | 13 | 1.12 |
| Pacific University | 12 | 3.22 |
| Concordia University | 11 | 2.25 |
| Oregon Health & Science University | 9 | 1.4 |
| Western Oregon University | 7 | 0.32 |
| University of Portland | 5 | 0.25 |
| Eastern Oregon University | 5 | 0.24 |

Kullgren |, I. K. (2014).

So what do you want to do? Take away rights for people to fight against their attackers? By taking away their rights and my rights to protect ourselves would not only be a violation of our 2nd Amendment rights, but also our right to protect our family and our bodies from harm caused by someone else. We are about protection and safety right? So why would you want to hurt others with this ridiculous bill?

Do you want to be held responsible for causing more rapes and muggings to be perpetrated against women?

I strongly oppose this bill, and if any of you have a conscious, you would not let this pass.

Thank you,

Rose Maddocks

Source

Kullgren |, I. K. (2014, July 02). How sexual assault rates compare among Oregon's colleges. Retrieved February 23, 2021, from https://www.oregonlive.com/politics/2014/07/how_sexual_assault_rates_compa.html