

CITY COUNCIL

555 Liberty St SE / Room 220 • Salem, OR 97301-3513 • (503) 588-6255 • Fax (503) 588-6354

April 21, 2021

Representative Barbara Smith Warner, Chair Representative Christine Drazan, Vice-Chair Representative Paul Holvey, Vice-Chair Members of the House Rules Committee Oregon State Capitol 900 Court Street, Room 333 Salem Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Warner, Vice-Chair Drazan, Vice Chair Holvey,

I'm writing on behalf of the Salem City Council in support the -18 amendments to Senate Bill 554. The amendments allow communities across Oregon to explore prohibitions on open carry of firearms in our parks.

This past summer, groups of people armed with assault weapons roamed one of Salem's iconic parks. They roamed freely through Bush's Pasture Park, a place where children and families gather for peaceful picnics, play, watch cross country races, and enjoy a soap box derby or the Salem Art Fair.

The -18 amendments to Senate Bill 554 would provide local jurisdictions like Salem with an important tool to protect our parks and our community.

The City of Salem is requesting your support of the -18 amendments to Senate Bill 554.

Sincerely,

Tom Andersen

City Councilor, Ward 2

cc: Salem Legislative Delegation