

The SB554 is a solution in search of a problem. There is not evidence or situations to support this Bill as a preventative measure for gun violence. Concealed carry permit holders are vetted by law enforcement to be allowed to receive a permit and to have a gun they are also required to pass a background check. This double measure of investigation done under current Oregon law make them the most responsible and safest gun owners.

If the situation would arise and police officers are 5 minutes away, who would you want to step in and save lives in an emergency situation. Making doing so a criminal offense is not a good idea and not a deterrent to someone committing a crime of violence. The law abiding citizen who tries to step in and stop violence who is unprotected would become another victim. There are many people in our State that would still try to stop violence even if they were not armed and in doing so become a casualty. You may know some of these extraordinary people and if you study the reports, coaches in schools other people in the general public have responded to stop gun or other violence and paid for it with their lives as they were unarmed.

Why make a criminal out of a person who is licensed, vetted and trained to protect? People do not apply for and receive a concealed carry permit without thought, reason and understanding of the responsibility that goes with carrying a licensed gun.

The legislature and the same certain elected members for some reason make eliminating the second amendment a priority over all they want to do while in office. So many more people are injured or killed by other means than some deranged person with a gun. The incidents of child abuse, spouse abuse and drug abuse, education for our children by allowing school choice are far more important issues than restricting law abiding citizens rights to exercise their 2nd amendment rights.

Legislatures are elected to serve all Oregonians and not for a narrow agenda put forth by some national groups. We want to respect and honor the thoughtful men and women who give of their time and make the effort to serve all Oregonians; so do not be a gun control zombie. Thank you for your consideration of my thoughts.