

Chairman Prozanski and Vice chair Thatcher

I read SB554. It is an absolute train wreck. It does nothing to solve the gun violence problem in Oregon. It does nothing to hold criminals accountable for their disregard of the law. It only serves to make law abiding concealed carry permit holders the scapegoat of the issues surrounding crime that take place on public property. It is unclear to me why the Democratic supermajority is labeling law abiding gun owners as the problem when in fact they have done nothing wrong. The supermajority has provided no evidence showing gun violence in cities such as Portland is definitively caused by law abiding gun owners, namely those who lawfully conceal carry handguns. I'm quite sure our local media would not hesitate to report that they found evidence linking gun related homicides to law abiding gun owners. So far most of the homicides in question have been linked to criminals who do not care about the law. On that note, if this SB554 passes and becomes law, it will embolden criminals to commit crime on public property because they will know that concealed carry is prohibited, giving them a free pass to commit whatever crime they want. Sure we can call 911 but by then it will be too late. Now more than ever, we need Oregon's preemption law to remain in effect. Therefore, SB 554 should be rejected. Thank you for your time.

V/r

Jason Taylor