

I'm writing in support of SB 554. This bill will help keep guns out of Oregon schools, colleges, and public administration buildings like the Oregon state capitol - all of which have experienced attacks by violent individuals intending harm, and too often with tragic results. Guns simply have no place in educational or public buildings. This bill will allow local officials to enact policies protecting the safety of people in their communities, and to protect buildings essential to the functioning of government. For eight years I worked at the University of Oregon, in a high-traffic, high-stress office. Given the epidemic of gun violence on college campuses in the United States, I worried that one day, a disturbed individual would bring a gun and start killing. The administration acknowledged the risk by conducting active shooter trainings, which were terrifying in and of themselves. This is no way to live, no way to work. This is not safety. This is not freedom. Please send SB 554 to the floor for a vote, and vote YES on it then. This bill affects each and every Oregonian.