

Chair Prozanski, Vice-chair Thatcher,

My name is Andrew Parker.

I come before you in opposition to Senate Bill 554.

I am not a member of any right or leftwing group, the NRA or any associated groups supporting gun rights. I am however a citizen of Oregon and a gun owner interested in the defeat of Senate Bill 554!

I understand the thought process behind gun legislation but as with many topics of interest enacting a new law will not solve the problem. As an example after a 47 year "War on Drugs" you can't keep drugs off the streets, you can't keep drugs out of schools, you can't even keep drugs out of federal or state prisons. Yet you want me to disarm myself and trust that you can keep guns from criminals?

Here are a few facts from the CDC regarding gun deaths last year.

From the CDC:

- There were 32,000 gun deaths last year
- 60% are suicide – 19,200
- 3% are accidents – 960
- 4% are justified -1,280
- 33% are homicides – 10,560
- That leaves 1,7712 people in a country with a population of 312 million
- You have a 0.000102564102565 chance of death by firearm
- If you are not part of a gang, don't commit crime or plan on committing suicide , you have a 0.000008564102564% chance of death by firearm

However well intentioned your legislation is it will fail and it will fail miserably. The reason it will fail is laws are followed by most citizens, they aren't the problem, it's the criminal element within our civilization. Your law will in no way deter them from continuing down the path of lawlessness. Just like locks on your house or car they are there to keep law abiding people out, they do not keep criminal's out. You know it and so do I.

Thank you for your time and I hope that you will stop this legislation which has no chance of preventing crime or more senseless deaths!

Respectfully,

Andrew B. Parker