

Senators;

'Gun sales break records in Oregon' is the headline in Sunday's (Bend) Bulletin. It mirrors results all across the country. People rely on a government that provides a reasonable level of security and safety which are basic tenants of a government that truly serves its citizens. Defunding the police, authorities permitting rioting and vandalism on a continuing basis and lack of prosecution or accountability does not spell security or safety.

People are simply exercising their 2nd Amendment Constitutional right to keep and bear arms for their own self defense. Safety can't wait for extended periods of time. There is a need for self-reliance.

A Constitutional right is only a right when you can freely exercise it. Guns in the hands of concealed carry holders have prevented many crimes and mitigated others. There is no credible review I am aware of showing a significant number of crimes being committed by concealed permit holders. They also buy guns through conventional means, requiring a background checks. Bad guys get guns through any means. "FOLLOW THE SCIENCE"

I urge you to OPPOSE SB 554 and afford citizens the same level of protection elected officials provide for themselves.

Respectfully submitted.

Jack Holt