

Regarding HB 3177, the natural rights of the citizenry contrasted with "public safety" in a declared emergency must be met with clearly definable evidence and information - in advance - to justify such an emergency declaration - particularly with the open-ended and unrestricted laws enacted in this State giving the Governor plenary powers. Without requiring such significant evidence and information before allowing such a declaration of emergency is clearly subject to abuse and exceeds all rational bounds of logic. We are a society and culture which is based upon objective use of information for the betterment of our society - not extreme and and emotional, rhetorical responses to justify actions. We expect to elect and be governed by thinking adults; the actions of our elected officials must not allow any appearance that we are governed by nothing more than emotional children. As such, and as our country is based upon the natural rights of its citizenry, honoring those rights demands, in light of the unsupported actions of our State government in the past year, that passage of HB 3177 be promptly effected as a minimal check and balance on the usage of power by the Executive Branch of the State of Oregon.