

Dear Senators Prozanski, Thatcher, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Measure 110 Implementation:

In case any of you have forgotten, each one of you took the following oath of office as set out in Article IV, Section 31 of the Oregon Constitution:

“I do solemnly swear (or affirm as the case may be) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Oregon, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of Senator (or Representative as the case may be) according to the best of my Ability.”

The second Amendment of the US Constitution provides “the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed.”

Article I, Section 27 of the Oregon Constitution provides, that “The people shall have the right to bear arms for the defence [sic] of themselves.”

SB 554 is a direct infringement of the natural right of Oregonians to bear arms to defend themselves, and a vote in favor of the bill would be a direct violation of your oath of office.

Despite what seems to be the common belief among many of your colleagues, laws are NOT constitutional merely because you pass them, and it is not incumbent upon the people to bring a judicial challenge to prove that you are wrong.

Each of you upon entering your office, took an oath to support and defend both the US and the Oregon Constitutions. You took upon yourselves the affirmative duty to protect and defend that natural rights of all Oregonians and ensure that the limited powers that the people granted to the government, is used to protect those rights, not trample, abuse, or infringe upon them. You took upon yourselves the affirmative duty to uphold and support the US and Oregon Constitutions. Supporting the Constitutions as you are required to do is mutually exclusive from a vote in favor of SB 554. The two are completely incompatible.

I urge all of you to abide by the oaths of office you undertook and to vote no on SB 554.

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