

Regarding SB348

I have NEVER been to a hearing before this one, nor ever written a letter to a Senate Committee – so this is a first. Why did I go? I went because of the last-minute addition of 64 pages to the initial one page proposed SB348. The last-minute addition of this length is suspicious at best and should be scrutinized and not to be trusted. When I submitted papers in college and grad school, adding 64 pages to a paper was daunting at minimum. This was not a last-minute addition, but a calculated, malicious, villainous move made to pull something fast on the opposing ideas. That is why I came – and came with wanting to find out what was going on – came with an open mind and neutral in opinion. Turns out my instinct was correct as after reading it I found it to be a well thought out, covert attempt to slip in verbiage to strength the advocate’s position and to weaken opposition due to lack of time to read and respond to it appropriately

At the hearing I found out that no collaboration (from both sides) was done on creating these ‘definitions’ and ‘clarifications’ as well as implementing strict policies –which reminded me of events in history where the elitist bullied the opposing side, believing they know better than anyone else. After reading it I found it to be a well thought out, covert attempt to slip in verbiage to strength the advocate’s position and to weaken opposition due to lack of time to read and respond to it appropriately.

As an American citizen and a longtime resident of Oregon, it was incumbent upon me to attend this hearing, as we citizens can no longer trust all of those that we have voted in to protect and serve us. But with an open mind, that is why I came.

I am Opposed to this bill in all cases EXCEPT for people convicted of crimes due to or diagnosed with mental problems. Anyone who is or has received a dismissal from any crime due to insanity, should never get a weapon permit of any sort. Any one with emotional issues as well – should never be allowed access to guns.

I am opposed to the restrictions on age – as people as young as 17 can serve in our military. I would trust that they would know how to properly handle weapons.

I am opposed to law enforcement given the extra task of reporting age, gender and race – as that is just plain profiling. Having just visited the African American Museum in Nashville this past Saturday, I was reminded of the Jim Crow days. Shame on the curators of this clause. There is no lame excuse for saying this is to know how to provide resources to a community.

I am opposed to the extra days of registration. The background checks including medications can easily be found in this day of internet access – this is unacceptable, especially as it could put people’s life in danger when they need it for defense especially in timely and duress situations (domestic abuse).

I am opposed to this proposed addition as it puts many lives in danger which is unfortunate due to the defunding of the police, rules put on the law enforcement, as criminals or thugs more appropriately, do not abide by the law. Show me a city where the thugs obey the laws. Where they would follow the legal registrations. You will not find that. With these restrictions this law would further risk law abiding citizens from being able to defend themselves, their families and communities as well as quality of life.

Opposed as I hear stories from my legally immigrated friends from eastern Europe, Honduras, all Asian countries, Africa, Ireland, etc., that they had no way to protect themselves from tranny or thugs. Thugs or criminals as is more appropriate to say never obey the law.

Look at the crime in what was once beautiful Portland – etc. where there are restrictions on the police and defunding the police and the horrific changes since 2020. It is becoming a place to avoid and as I travel the comments of people when they hear I am from Portland is NOT complementary. I am beginning to not admit I live technically in SW Portland, but outside that area. If you go to downtown Portland, you will see businesses are leaving downtown, crime is up. Therefore I no longer will go down to shop or eat there.

The best defense is normal, commonsense, responsible homeowners or renters to be armed and ready.

Monday's testimonies by those opposed who eloquently gave common sense reasons and facts are echoed by me as well now.

I do know that I wish my neighbors were armed like the one father/husband from Eugene who spoke Monday night. Now, I realize I need to go take lessons and get more skilled for my own protection. Growing up on a farm with no guns in the 50's-60's in a safer time, my dad did let respectful hunters on his land to hunt deer and pheasant, but we did not hunt. I learned a different perspective from those who did own firearms after my college graduation & grad school, not that we were against, we just didn't have any. Being raised by my wonderful parents to learn to look at people's character, not how they physically looked, played a wealth of appreciation for people of all colors – who their actions show their character – good or bad. We heard and remember Dr. Martin Luther King and his ACTUAL speech (not what was said on Monday in the hearing) THAT is what we need to remember regarding race.

As the Declaration of Independence points out "all men are created equal", this measure's verbiage is clearly profiling and therefore unlawful.

Remember the constitution, where we have the right to bear arms – to defend ourselves against tyranny, the enemy, also gives the statement 'all men are created equal'. Because there has been such racial judgement in the past, the profiling is just an offensive insulting statement by the curator(s) of this proposed bill as well as a Pollyanna ideal that gun control will solve the violence issue as well as suicide. It will not. Violence is an issue of the heart. The best defense is for responsible citizens to be armed and ready. This will help our society, businesses, and our quality of life to be good – as pre- 2020.

Mental health is extremely important to prevent suicide which unfortunately, removing guns, will not solve this problem as this is a Pollyanna idealistic belief for there are other ways people commit suicide. We need awareness of help resources for those with mental anguish and problems.

In closing, The right to bear arms needs to remain for our own protection without these restrictions proposed in this bill. This bill is just a step towards removing all – leaving law abiding citizens defenseless against criminals and tranny as in communist countries.

This is my sincere opinion as a US Citizen in good standing,

Anne Faulkner