

Submitter: JOHN TURMAN
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB2572

Making laws that intentionally, or unintentionally, turn law abiding citizens into criminals is bad public policy. Particularly when the "problem" be "solved" doesn't exist in the first place.

Oregon, outside of the Willamette Valley metropolis zones, is a sparsely populated place. We have a significant possibility for a major natural disaster in the coastal region - the Pacific subduction earthquake. Will people who form neighborhood watches to protect life & property in cases where all civil order has temporarily broken down be considered "paramilitary" organizations? Short answer is Yes.

In remote central/eastern Oregon where law enforcement response times can be lengthy, sometimes even non-existent, will neighbors who come together in mutual support be in violation of the law? It would be irresponsible of such people to not practice/train/rehearse. Yet this bill casts them into a category that deems them dangerous criminals, not responsible citizens. That is totally wrong.

Not to mention the obvious violation of the "freedom of assembly" constitutional right.

Show some courage, and basic decency, and do not support HB 2572.