

Date: May 4, 2021
To: Oregon Senators.
From: Kerry Spurgin
President, Oregon State Shooting Association (OSSA)
Regarding: OPPOSITION to SB554



On behalf of Oregon State Shooting Association (OSSA) Members and Clubs, Oregon Hunters and Sportsmen, and law-abiding Oregon Citizens, I request you **Vote NO on SB554B**.

OSSA is firmly in favor and promotes safe storage. We do this for the safety of our families, our children, and our community. OSSA is also a strong advocate for health and wellness to bring key resources for those members of our community that are in crisis or mental health conditions that put them at suicide risk. For this we have partnered with the Oregon Firearms Safety Council (OFSC) to bring valuable resources to the community.

However, SB554B does not focus on these critical issues. SB554B will trip up law-abiding citizens in a maze of zones where they will inadvertently become felons in their attempt to travel normally through the state. As a result, Oregon's law-abiding citizens will be forced to stow their firearms in vehicles. SB554B's adoption of HB2510 for lockup and liability goes too far! As noted in prior communications, OSSA advocates for safe storage, which must be done correctly, and OSSA is willing to help. Where this part of the bill goes too far is in holding law-abiding citizens accountable for unlawful actions of others. While the criminal and unlawful element in our community will ignore the new laws and will retain their firearms for their unlawful agenda. **And this makes Oregon Safer? We think not.**

SB554 will have NO impact on criminal or unlawful use of firearms. SB554 will only impact and infringe upon the rights of law-abiding citizens of Oregon and travelers that come to Oregon.

Let us focus on solutions that address the real problems, hold individuals accountable for unsafe acts or criminal acts with firearms. Most importantly, let us amp up the support for crisis and mental health resources to prevent unwanted use of firearms. OSSA is engaging with Oregon Firearms Safety Council to drive awareness, education, and resources to help Oregon gun owners, their families, and Oregon communities be safe.

I am an Oregon citizen as well as a member and President of the Oregon State Shooting Association (OSSA). The Oregon State Shooting Association directly represents nearly 15,000 members through member clubs and individual membership to foster safe and responsible firearms use as well as family-oriented shooting sports in Oregon. Additionally, OSSA provides information, resources, and assistance to over 100,000 Oregon hunters. OSSA, and its members, are strong supporters of the Bill of Rights, the US Constitution, and the Oregon Constitution and the rights and responsibilities of responsible firearm owners.

I ask, on behalf of OSSA's Members, that the Oregon Legislature **Vote NO on SB554B** as it does not address the root of the problems, will make felons of law-abiding citizens, levies misplaced accountability, and have NO impact on criminal or unlawful use of firearms.

Kerry Spurgin, President, Oregon State Shooting Association.