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LD 2283

I am writing to express my opposition to LD 2283 an act to enact the crisis intervention order act to protect the safety of the public.

The sponsors and supporters of this bill claim that LD 2283 will protect the safety of the public by restraining access to firearms “ if a person is suspected of posing a significant danger of causing severe harm to the person or another person”. If LD 2283 is truly about protecting the safety of the public then why does LD 2283 only deal with restraining access to firearms and not with restraining access to all potentially dangerous weapons? What about access to knives, tasers, automobiles, airplanes, etc?

LD 2283 would allow a person to lose their their rights solely based on the statements of another and without the opportunity of the accused to face their accuser in court with the aid of effective council. LD 2283 would allow a petitioner with a grudge to petition for removal of a respondents rights without the respondent's knowledge and ability to defend themselves. As history has shown back in 2017, even an FBI lawyer was willing to lie on a warrant application to the secret FISA court. This also involved an ex parte hearing.

LD 2283 also allows immunity for law enforcement with respect to the liability for damage to firearms. If the government is going to seize property they should be required to return the property in the same condition in which it was found.

LD 2283 is clearly a rushed attempt to push a gun control agenda. LD 2283 allows ex parte hearings which are clearly repugnant to the Constitution as they do not afford the accused any due process. LD 2283 will increase the danger to the public by creating unnecessarily risky interactions between law enforcement and respondents with potentially innocent bystanders caught in the crossfire. As was reported in the news just last week, Portland police raided a duplex apartment in New Gloucester without warning. The police were looking for suspects in one apartment but also reportedly fired gas grenades into the adjoining apartment which included a family with children who were completely innocent. The police reportedly did not even take the time to inform the sheriff about the operation. How did police obtain a legitimate warrant to launch gas grenades into an innocent family's apartment? This raid easily could have ended tragically had an armed parent returned fire to defend their family. Just like this raid, LD 2283 is a potential disaster waiting to happen and ought not to pass.