



**OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**COMMITTEES:**  
Behavioral Health &  
Health Care,  
Emergency  
Management, General  
Government &  
Veterans, & Judiciary

May 18, 2023

Timothy G. Sekerak  
Chief Clerk of the House  
State Capitol Building, H271  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Vote Explanation for HB 2572 -A

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

I voted in support of HB 2572 the "Paramilitary" bill because it allows the Attorney General to bring a civil action for injunctive relief (Section 1(2)(a)) against paramilitary organizations and allows a private right of action (Section 1 (3)(a)) for people injured as a result of their actions.

To be negatively impacted by this legislation, a person must:

1. Knowingly act as part of a private paramilitary organization,
2. Be armed with a dangerous or deadly weapon, and
3. Act to either substantially disrupt governmental operation or a proceeding, assume the powers of the government or a peace officer, or interfere with another person's rights.

Organized paramilitary groups that do not interfere with people expressing their rights are not impacted by this bill. A private military organization is defined as: "**...any group of three or more persons associating under a command structure for the purpose of functioning in public or training to function in public as a combat, combat support, law enforcement or security services unit.**"

I will never support organized groups that intentionally train and act to interfere with a person's constitutional rights of freedom of speech and to peacefully assemble. These are two of our most fundamental rights. This bill does not differentiate with respect to political ideologies – it provides a civil remedy to ensure people can exercise their rights uninhibited by others.

I will always support the entire Constitution and ensure people can exercise their rights.

Sincerely,

Representative Charlie Conrad  
House District 12