



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 18, 2023

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

RE: Vote Explanation on HB 2572-A

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

There are a few things I would like to clarify regarding my vote of support for HB 2572-A.

First, this bill does not restrict our right to defend ourselves and our property. In fact, I have supported other legislation which enhances that right.

Second, I have been fighting all session to strengthen our law enforcement and to make use of our law enforcement to protect our citizens. I will continue in that fight, but I will not move in the direction of supporting vigilante justice.

This bill is complex, but the essential point is that it allows persons to seek protections against unlawful vigilante groups who pretend to be providing security but are not obeying the commands and restrictions of law enforcement. It allows an individual to seek court action to protect himself or herself against such groups.

This legislation only affects groups of three or more persons who are associating under a command structure for the purpose of functioning in public as combat support, law enforcement, or security service units, when they are not legally such organizations. The exemptions in this legislation make it clear that this does not apply to our armed forces, our national guard, our organized state militia, our unorganized or reserve militia called into service, groups who carry on historical performances or parades, (such as civil war reenactors), students in military education programs, lawful security service programs, or members of an organization that is authorized under state or federal law to provide paramilitary, law enforcement, or security services, or to engage in paramilitary activity as authorized by law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin L. Mannix".

Kevin L. Mannix
State Representative, House District 21