

To: Laramie Stroud, House Committee, Duty #4,

Rep. Drew Darby, Chair, Mass Violence Prevention & Community Safety, Select Duty (4)

From: Hal Kauffeldt, for self

Dear Mr. Stroud,

I write today in response to the House Select Committee's solicitation of input from the public.

As a citizen of the great state of Texas, I urge you to employ a factual model in your evaluation of the needs of the State to regulate the exercise of our federally guaranteed rights under the Constitution and Bill of Rights, when assessing any proposal for additional legislation which may look to curtail said rights in any way.

While it is clear that there are, unfortunately, people in our society with harmful intent to others, any actions you consider should reasonably be required to meet a simple, common sense test – would they mitigate the actions of those who intend to cause harm to others? If the answer to that simple question cannot be demonstrated as affirmative, on the basis of fact and evidence, then any such planned action is doomed to fail, and is likely to have no effect other than an infringement upon the rights of those not the alleged target of said action.

We, as citizens, expect our elected officials to be circumspect in their consideration of any changes to our laws. If your committee plans to offer any proposals for consideration as new law, we, the citizens of Texas, expect you to demonstrate to us in advance how such measures are a reasonable, rationale, and beneficial measure which does not infringe upon our Constitutionally protected rights.

I am, as yet, sadly unaware of any legislation which has been able to prevent those with ill intent towards others from acting upon that intent. Unless you have evidence to show that you've discovered such a plan, I urge you to consider the guidelines of the Hippocratic Oath, and "First, do no harm" to the rights we enjoy as citizens of this great state.