From: jason.kilgore@comcast.net
To: DeJong Annola
Subject: Written Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 699
Date: Thursday, April 04, 2013 4:02:09 PM

Dear Chair Prozanski and Committee Members,

My name is Jason Kilgore, and I live in the Eugene area.

I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 699.

I was appalled to learn, during a recent pro-gun rally at the state Capitol, that gun advocates were legally able to carry weapons into the building. But to do so openly, including with assault rifles, is even more shocking.

Our lawmakers have, as their task, the important duty of considering controversial issues -- issues that can inflame the passions of many constituents. Though most gun owners are sane and reasonably level-headed, some clearly are not. Allowing them to carry weapons into the halls of the Capitol put at risk anyone who opposes their views. Furthermore, those of us civilians who wish to voice our concerns on those bills are also put at risk.

And even if the gun owners in question are not openly hostile, the show of weapons is nonetheless an intimidation factor. Democracy does not fit with the idea of armed intimidation. This is the sort of spectacle one might expect to see in some third-world nation, not in our country! And as the survivor of a shooting in my youth, I can say with authority that I don't care to oppose another armed individual who is potentially angry with more for some ideological reason.

I therefore call for sanity and the support of Senate Bill 699, to prevent the open carry of firearms in public buildings and our state Capitol building.

Sincerely,

Jason A. Kilgore