

Open Letter to the Members of the House Committee on Health in Opposition of HB2510

Owning a firearm and having the ability to use it when there is an imminent danger makes for a safer society. Putting more liability on self-defense creates an obstacle to citizens having the ability to use a firearm. Guns prevent an estimated 2.5 million crimes a year, or 6,849 every day. Most often, the gun owner never fires the gun, and nobody sheds blood, including the criminal.

Every year, individuals using firearms in their defense prevent 400,000 life-threatening violent crimes. That is more lives saved than by police in a year. In [a report](#) released by the Center for Disease Control ordered by President Obama in 2012 following the Sandy Hook Massacre, the agency estimated that the number of crimes prevented by guns could be even higher—as many as 3 million annually, or some 8,200 every day.

Sixty percent of convicted felons admitted that they avoided committing crimes when they knew the victim was armed. Forty percent of convicted felons admitted that they avoided committing crimes when they thought the victim might be armed, which makes conceal carry even more vital for protection.

Moreover, felons report that they avoid entering houses where people are at home because they fear the owner shooting them. Then consider less than 1 percent of firearms are used in the commission of a crime and CHL holders are statistically six times less likely to commit a violent crime than the average citizen who does not have a CHL.

It is imperative to the safety of the citizens of Oregon to oppose HB 2510 and support the intent of the Founding Fathers who believed in the principle of self-protection. Vote NO on HB 2510 and let this very deleterious bill die in committee.

Sincerely, Rob Taylor

Chair of the Committee to Preserve the Second Amendment

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