

20 April 2021

To: House Committee on Rules

Re: Senate Bill 554 A

Dear Chair Representative Smith Warner, Vice-Chairs Representatives Drazan and Holvey, and members of the Committee:

I am opposed to Senate Bill 554 A and strongly urge you to stop this legislation.

If anyone can be trusted to carry a firearm in public it is those who have been vetted to do so and have training to do so, e.g., concealed handgun license holders. Sponsors and supporters of this legislation know that a citizen holding a CHL has proven they have no criminal background and have received training in the safe use of firearms. They pose no threat to anyone. Yet they are assumed to be just that, a threat to the public. It is "guilty until proven innocent" in every respect.

Besides the obvious infringement on my Constitutional right to "keep and bear arms" this legislation accomplishes nothing except salve the consciences of those who believe any firearm is a threat and that anyone who has one is a danger to the public.

The sponsors and advocates of this bill are ignoring the fact that criminals do not obey laws. Whatever their hopes are for this bill to accomplish, it has nothing to do with stopping criminal activity. All it does is make criminals out of law-abiding citizens.

Again, please let this misguided legislation go no further. It is a bad idea in all respects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Wisner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard Wisner