

Testimony for SB 554

Chair Prozanski, Vice-chair Thatcher:

Our names are Paulette Alexandria and Gregory Thorsgard. We come before you in opposition to Senate Bill 554.

What we expect from our Legislature are ideas that translate into law that make OUR life better and DO NOT restrict OUR freedoms. We have noticed that over the years our Oregon lawmakers are trying to take our second amendment rights away. We wonder why? It is criminals and the mentally ill who do crimes, not concealed carry holders. Why do you focus on us?

We worked hard in our lives, followed the law, paid our taxes. My husband and I are both over 60 and are concealed carry holders. 100% of concealed carry holders have passed a background check and are some of the most honest and trustworthy people in our society.

SB 554 does not make any sense at all as it will not stop criminals from using guns in crimes. We already have laws to penalize criminals who commit violent crimes. We need to fully fund the criminal justice system and send violent criminals to jail. Why are you penalizing law abiding citizens? Do you NOT remember who you serve? Please fix our transportation infrastructure and lessen the taxation and regulatory burden on business in Oregon instead of sitting around and thinking how to create further burdens on those who legally want to protect themselves. Make Oregon a place that senior citizens will want to live in and feel safe and have the right to concealed carry anywhere and everywhere without restrictive fees or penalties. Oregon has grown more and more unsafe and that is NOT due to the impact of concealed carry license holders, it is because the Oregon lawmakers and the judicial system have NOT been tough on criminals. Be tough on criminals NOT on those law abiding tax payers.

SB 554 should not move out of this committee.
Thank you.

Respectfully,

Paulette Alexandria
Gregory L. Thorsgard
Yamhill County