

I'd like to try and break down how I think this bill will effect me personally. I follow all laws to the best of my ability and passage of SB 554 will likely make the ability to legally carry a concealed handgun, almost pointless. I feel that I have a right to self defense.

"Authorizes city, county, metropolitan service district, port operating commercial airport, school district, college or university to adopt ordinance or policy limiting or precluding affirmative defense for possession of firearms in public buildings by concealed handgun licensees."

I possess a concealed handgun license and this really concerns me. How am I supposed to keep track of all the different rules that will be but in place? The only people that will follow these laws will be people like myself. Someone with the intent to do wrong won't care a bit about this law. Also, I would have to transition from a holster to a vehicle safe or lockbox. How many people are comfortable doing this in their vehicle? This is a disaster waiting to happen. I find it a great safety issue to have firearms left in cars susceptible to theft.

"Modifies definition of "public building," for purposes of crime of possession of weapon in public building, to include certain airport areas, buildings owned or controlled by public bodies and real property owned by college or university."

I don't understand why we need to modify a definition of a "public building"? Is it to make it more difficult to keep track of all the requirements? It seems as if this bill is designed to entrap citizens that for the most part do their best to follow the laws. I'm sure this will be expanded to include parking areas. Now I will have to park farther away, off property, remove my handgun, store it in the vehicle, walk through who knows what to access the "public building". Are we going to increase police presence at "public buildings" so I can be assured that my family and myself are safe? It seems that areas around "public buildings" are becoming less safe.

"Punishes violation by maximum of five years' imprisonment, \$125,000 fine, or both."

What kind of signage will be posted? I bet that many will break this law before they even know it.

"Increases fees payable to county sheriff for issuance and renewal of concealed handgun license."

This seems to be pretty blatantly biased against people that are of lower income. I think it is pretty close to being racist, income should not be a barrier for being able to protect yourself. If my Sheriff is struggling with funding of the concealed carry program I'd like to find alternate ways to support it, once again income should not be a barrier for self protection.

"Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die."

Why do all bills seem to have this emergency clause now? It seems very authoritarian and divisive. We really don't need that right now. We should be finding ways to come together in these difficult times.