

Dear Committee members,

I am writing to let you know my position on this Senate Bill (#554). As I have experienced, we already have as laws on the books that limit or exclude the opportunity for me to carry my concealed firearm in many places....banks, government buildings, schools and grocery stores. As a retired law enforcement officer, I believe that is enough. It is awkward for me to have to "disarm" myself to enter these facilities as it is. I believe my armed presence in some of these places is a deterrent to criminal behavior not a contributor. Those of us who have concealed/carry permits have been checked thoroughly in terms of our background behavior. We want nothing more than to live and prosper in a safe and thriving community. Once the criminal element figures out we aren't allowed to carry our firearms in particular areas, are they not more likely to target those areas. I've seen and heard efforts to "defund" law enforcement, Add to that the the disenfranchising of legal concealed/carry and I believe you have added to the opportunities for criminals to thrive.

This bill also has the potential to negatively effect the rural areas (everything south and east of Eugene) disproportionately. We are already experiencing frequent delays in law enforcement response in our sparsely settled counties as well as rural areas in more populated counties. To limit those residents from the ability to protect themselves from predators is not a good option.

Please do not move this bill forward!

thank you,
Joanell Mogstad
4797 Old Dillard Road
Eugene, Oregon 97405