

Dear, Chair Prozanski, Vice-chair Thatcher
My name is Randy Lawson. I come before you in opposition to Senate Bill 554.

I start with a partial description of what is required of an individual in the state of Oregon in order for him or her to receive a concealed handgun license to protect themselves and their families against deadly physical harm or injury.

SECTION 5. ORS 166.291 APPLICATION FOR LICENSE TO CARRY CONCEALED HANDGUN

I hereby declare as follows: I am a citizen of the United States or a legal resident alien who can document continuous residency in the county for at least six months and have declared in writing to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services my intention to become a citizen and can present proof of the written declaration to the sheriff at the time of this application. I am at least 21 years of age. I have never been convicted of a felony or found guilty, except for insanity under ORS 161.295, of a felony in the State of Oregon or elsewhere. I have not, within the last four years, been convicted of a misdemeanor or found guilty, except for insanity under ORS 161.295, of a misdemeanor. I have not been convicted of an offense involving controlled substances or completed a court-supervised drug diversion program. There are no outstanding warrants for my arrest and I am not free on any form of pretrial release. I have not been committed to the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 426.130, nor have I been found to be a person with mental illness and presently subject to an order prohibiting me from purchasing or possessing a firearm because of mental illness. I am not under a court order to participate in assisted outpatient treatment that includes an order prohibiting me from purchasing or possessing a firearm. I have never received a dishonorable discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States. I am not required to register as a sex offender in any state. I understand I will be fingerprinted and photographed. Legal name Age Date of birth Place of birth Social Security number (Disclosure of your Social Security account number is voluntary. Solicitation of the number is authorized under ORS 166.291. It will be used only as a means of identification.) Proof of identification (Two pieces of current identification are required, one of which must bear a photograph of the applicant. I have read the entire text of this application, and the statements therein are correct and true. (Making false statements on this application is a misdemeanor.)

Along with Oregon's CHL requirement it is also America's Constitutional Second Amendment right and I believe self-protection being a God given right as well.

The above Oregon CHL requirements appear to me to show our most outstanding and law-abiding citizens, yet HB554 directly points us out to be some sort of crazy people that are waiting to do something unlawful. If you are trying to stop criminal activity with HB554 you are wrong. A criminal by definition would never follow the rules you are trying to make law. (Webster's criminal defined: "a gross violation of law.") Are the sponsors of this bill unaware of that fact? Or is this a scam to get more money by way of fines that the unaware CHL holder falls into a trap. Or is it that the sponsors of HB 554 want Oregon's upstanding citizens to become felons for doing nothing illegal today but possible unsuspecting blatant acts of crime tomorrow for doing absolutely nothing different or wrong.

Chief sponsors Senator Burdic, Manning Jr, Wagner, Representative Prusak and Reynolds, can you please explain to us what you really want from this bill and how HB 544 will stop any crimes?

I conclude in saying that HB554 should not move out of this committee and no bill like it ever be preposed again in our state of Oregon. Thank you.