

February 22, 2021

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, Room
Salem, Oregon 97301

Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee:

The Special Districts Association of Oregon represents approximately 950 districts across the state that provide a wide range of services including water, wastewater, library, parks and recreation, fire protection, irrigation, and ports to name a few. SDAO would like to express our support for SB 554, provided the committee adopts the dash 5 amendment proposed by Senator Burdick. That amendment would grant special districts the same authority that other public bodies would have under the bill before you. We would also like to express our gratitude to Senator Burdick for considering this request.

As currently presented before the committee, SB 554 would authorize cities, counties, Metro, schools, universities and colleges, among others, to adopt ordinances or policies that would prohibit persons with concealed weapon permits to enter their buildings with those weapons, provided that certain conditions have been followed. However, the bill in its current state does not grant this authority to special districts. Special districts are governed by the same standards as the previously mentioned public bodies and we believe should be afforded the same authority as our counterparts.

Our large and diverse membership supports the dash 5 amendment, and our simple request is that you extend the same authority under this bill to special districts that is being proposed for our other local government partners.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Mark Landauer
Lobbyist
Special Districts Association of Oregon