

Submitter: John Putman
On Behalf Of: Tillamook
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2007

Honorable Representatives and Judiciary Committee members:

House Bill 2007 further weakens Oregon's preemption law in order to allow localities to prohibit concealed carry in public buildings and on their grounds. Preemption is meant to prevent localities from passing their own anti-gun ordinances and creating a confusing patchwork of gun laws where citizens across the state do not have the same rights or are placed at risk of being made a criminal in their exercise of their concealed carry permits. Persons with concealed carry permits have voluntarily taken additional training and have undergone background checks. They are law-abiding, law-and-order citizens!

While there are times and places historically where firearms possession has been restricted, e.g. in courtrooms, this bill directly aimed at law-abiding, concealed carry permit holding citizens will create more problems than it attempts to solve. Uniformity in state law promotes Oregon's stability, especially on this issue of statewide concern. Oregon already feels less safe, especially given the violence in recent history in Portland! Do not allow municipalities to essentially invite criminals to prey on law-abiding citizens in "gun-free" zones. Do not promote crime by promoting a feeling of safety in criminals from their risk of harm from armed citizens, the vetted, law-abiding concealed carry permit holders.

I urge you to oppose HB 2007. Please be sensible. Penalize the criminal and do not promote the creation of "criminals-are-safe-here" zones!

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue.