

Submitter: James Shannon

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB698

SB 698 prohibits legally armed individuals from carrying in certain public spaces, effectively disarming those of us who have gone through the proper channels to obtain a CHL and who take personal protection seriously. This bill does not deter criminals—who, by definition, do not follow the law—but instead makes law-abiding citizens more vulnerable by ensuring they are defenseless in precisely the places where an attack is most likely to occur.

Time and again, we have seen that violent criminals seek out soft targets—places where they know no one will be able to fight back with the means to thwart their actions. By creating more of these areas, SB 698 emboldens those who wish to do harm while preventing responsible gun owners from taking action to protect themselves and others. The reality is that when seconds count, law enforcement is often minutes away. Disarming trained, law-abiding citizens removes a critical layer of protection in life-threatening situations.