

Submitter:	Chad Kernutt
On Behalf Of:	WE THE PEOPLE
Committee:	Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB698

My name is Chad Kernutt and I speak to you today as a concerned citizen and urge you to vote NO on SB-698. I am an Iraq War vet, I am a husband and father of three, and I love my family very much, they are my world. Most importantly I am a free man. I take very seriously my individual rights that were given to me not only by my God, but my Constitution. The gun control elements in our society like the red coats from the Moms Demand Action Army with their very loud voices, emotional stories of loss of loved ones either via mass shooting or choosing suicide, and their big bucks from Michael Bloomberg and George Soros have been influencing state legislatures and a lot of you have forgotten the silent majority of your constituents and the oath you took to the Oregon and U.S. Constitutions. I disagree with your gun control bills because having armed responsible citizens who want to protect themselves, their family, and other citizens should have access to guns and be encouraged and not discouraged to carry everywhere they go. I see a lot of problematic and unconstitutional gun control bills being proposed right now but the biggest head scratcher besides the permit to purchase bill is this bill attacking people with concealed handgun licenses seeking easier ways to slap us with felonies and turn more places in Oregon into gun-free zones which does nothing but make people soft targets and defenseless against those who are not going to follow your laws no matter how many you come up with (they're called criminals for a reason).

All this while this very same legislature this session is seeking more ways to provide relief to actual predators and monsters by decriminalizing more crimes with your pro-criminal bills like HB-2640 bumping down a bevy of felonies to misdemeanors like aggravated harrassment, criminal mischief, criminal trespass, theft, and failure to report as a sex offender. These would now amount to traffic level citations. I depend on my second amendment rights as does my wife to keep us and our children safe. That means carrying our concealed self-defense weapons in all public places and having them readily available for our defense in public and in our rigs.

The majority of these places you want to be gun free zones don't even have a law enforcement presence provided. We've seen time and again here in Oregon and nationally that such soft targets with no armed citizens present make for great mass casualty butchering scenes. Let's talk about some numbers. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) conducted a study of guns used in self-defense and based on the results found that guns were used defensively by victims about 3.6 times as often as they were used offensively by criminals. The yearly average for guns being used in situations of self-defense is 2 and a half million instances a year. The average police response in a city for a high priority call is 5-11 minutes. That's a lot of time when

you're going up against a bad guy with a gun. The average mass shooting is done within 3 minutes. That means that whatever is unfolding having to do with a bad guy who is armed is going to be over and done with by time the police show up. Whatever bad intentions and bad will that a criminal had in mind will have already been carried out and police will show up looking for the bad guy and trying to figure out what happened. Or you can arm yourself and always be prepared to defend yourself and those closest to you as well as those who cannot defend themselves. Depending on what you consider news and if you're watching or reading from a biased network with an agenda or not, than you may or may not know that all over America, good guys with guns are constantly stopping bad guys with guns and saving a lot of people from becoming victims, which they would have been due to law enforcement not being there. Mass shooters and criminals like soft targets and easy victims, let's not make more of those. Please do not attack us armed defenders.