

Submitter: Randall Shafer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB698

Dear Oregon Senators,

This legislative session has introduced 12 bills or resolutions that are a patchwork of legal "nets" that infringe on the right of gun owners to lawfully carry firearms as guaranteed by the Oregon and National Constitution. You may yawn at this, but I wish to submit that these create numerous "sticky" issues for people who have undergone background checks to purchase or receive their firearm as well as those that have taken State Certified Safety and Legal Training to be able to apply for a Concealed Carry License (CCL). In consideration of this bill, it creates nearly random variables of when and where someone lawfully licensed to carry a handgun. Look at current regulations between the City of Portland, Multnomah County and other jurisdictions. The definition of a public space, a loaded weapon, and the protection required to transport an unloaded gun, a clip, yet alone ammunition vary enough that any law abiding citizen could easily make a mistake simply crossing a city limit sign, with no intention of wrong doing. Is this the intent? Is it simply to create a hardship to lawful weapon ownership and licensed carry?

I wholeheartedly agree that there need to be areas that weapons are off limits; courthouses, police stations, state and federal buildings. These buildings often have security scanning and electromagnetic methods for detecting firearms. Adding regulations such as this can technically make it unlawful to transport a concealed weapon to an airport with the simple intent to transport it legally and lawfully in accordance with airline regulations and federal law. Of course we don't want weapons concealed on a person in a cabin, but hunters, sports shooters, even Olympians need to transport weapons in a lawful manner.

While you may believe that this somehow will help prevent mass shootings, improve safety and security, you completely ignore the fact that the people that have a CCL have already been scrutinized and they will work to abide by the law. The average criminal will not have achieved access to their weapon legally, with background checks and could care less what policy is implemented in any building or space attached to it. Let common sense prevail that those of us who are licensed to carry are trained, vetted and are law abiding citizens in order to maintain the privilege. We understand the great risk and civil liabilities in concealed carry. We are ready to face those liabilities should the undesired need to defend ourselves occur,. This bill unnecessarily creates problems for law abiding citizens to conduct legal movement and unanticipated changing statutes by simply crossing from a sidewalk to a property or across an invisible city limit. It does nothing to restrict the criminals that must be

the intention of governance.

Thank you for considering this testimony and voting no on this measure.