

Submitter: Kipp Karavanich

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB698

Oregon Senate Bill 698 represents a clear infringement upon the fundamental rights of law-abiding citizens. The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution unequivocally protects the right of individuals to keep and bear arms. This bill undermines that right by:

Eroding the Rights of CHL Holders:

By limiting the affirmative defense for concealed handgun licensees, SB698 effectively punishes those who have undergone background checks and training to exercise their Second Amendment rights responsibly.

This creates a two-tiered system where those who have followed the law are subjected to further restrictions.

Creating a patchwork of laws:

By giving local governments the ability to create their own rules, this bill will create a confusing and dangerous situation, where law abiding citizens will not know from location to location, what the rules are. This will lead to accidental law breaking, and create dangerous situations.

Ignoring the Reality of Self-Defense:

Restricting the ability of individuals to carry firearms in public buildings leaves them vulnerable to potential threats.

The Second Amendment is not merely about hunting or sport; it is fundamentally about the right to self-defense.

Criminals do not obey these laws. These laws only disarm law abiding citizens.

Instead of focusing on restricting the rights of law-abiding citizens, our efforts should be directed towards addressing the root causes of violence and ensuring that those with dangerous intentions are kept away from firearms. SB698 does not enhance public safety; it merely restricts the rights of those who pose no threat.