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On Behalf Of:	Hands off 2A
Committee:	Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB698

#### Concealed Carry Provisions

SB 698 is proposing changes to Oregon Revised Statutes regarding where concealed carry is permitted or may be prohibited. Allowing any city, county or district to adopt policies to prohibit concealed carry will create a state-wide nightmare. As November of 2024, Oregon has 327,858 concealed carry permit holders. (<https://crimeresearch.org/2024/12/concealed-carry-permit-holders-across-the-united-states-2024/>) Click on “download” for the complete report and scroll down to Figure 1.

Twenty-nine states have adopted Constitutional Carry for their entire state, meaning that a permit is no longer required. As you can see in Figure 1 of the report (see above), as the number of concealed carry rose, crime decreased. Concealed carry holders are by far the most law abiding of the population.

If SB 698 passes it will embolden criminals and result in more deaths and crime due to the restrictive requirements resulting in fewer people having the ability to defend themselves. What with criminals, gangs, Mexican cartels and the deranged who walk our streets and invade our homes it is imperative that we remain protected at all times. The liberal mantra of saving just one life and combating crime is pure hogwash. Yet killing the unborn by the thousands, the use of euthanasia and increasing traffic deaths by increasing speed limits is A OK.

SB 698 is not the solution to Oregon’s so called “gun violence” – it is a medical and drug use problem.

SB 698 is entirely unnecessary and unconstitutional. The problem Oregon has is a medical, mental and drug problem that is primarily caused by the state, i.e., expensive medical care, the serious lack of mental health care, and the legalization of drugs. I could go on and on.

SB 698, or as amended later, needs to be scrapped in its entirety.