

Testimony before Oregon Senate Judiciary Committee on April 5, 2013

SB 699 – in opposition

What is broken with current law (enacted 20 years ago) that requires this legislation to not only forbid or highly regulates CHL holders on public property or buildings, but applying the extreme penalty of a Class C felony if a CHL holder inadvertently carries and is apprehended.

Since current CHL law went into effect 20 years allowing CHL holders on public property and buildings, there have been NO incidents that require a change to the law. Especially a change that criminalizes (Class C Felony) a law-abiding citizen going about their daily routines, which could very likely include the very common practice of entering a public building, or even walking through its grounds.

This law would do NOTHING to protect the public. It actually makes public buildings and grounds less safe! Current law leaves a question in the mind of the criminal (who would never obey this law) of whether someone may be in a public building or its vicinity that could offer substantial resistance to their evil intentions. If this becomes law, not only will the criminal feel safer in a totally "gun-free zone", but it would make criminals of average, law-abiding citizens with an Oregon CHL, who carry on public property in the course of their daily routines.

Please vote NO on SB 699 and all amendments.