



CEASEFIRE oregon
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May 14, 2015

The Honorable Floyd Prozanski, Chair Senate Judiciary Committee
Salem, Oregon

Penny Okamoto
Executive Director
Ceasefire Oregon
Portland, Oregon

Re: Ceasefire Oregon opposes HB 3093 A7

Dear Chair Prozanski and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

Ceasefire Oregon has worked for 15 years to reduce gun violence in Oregon. We strongly oppose HB 3093A. This bill could allow poorly trained, out-of-state CHL holders to carry loaded, hidden guns on Oregon streets, into our parks and even into our public schools.

While HB 3093A would require states to have handgun competency similar to Oregon's, sadly, Oregon's CHL training is quite lax. For example, an Oregon CHL applicant is not required to undergo any live-fire shooting exercises. Even Texas requires shooting competency, as do six other states.¹ Furthermore, Oregon CHL training requirements do not include instruction in techniques for avoiding a criminal attack, or how to manage a violent confrontation or conflict resolution as other states do.²

While the vast majority of guns owners are extremely responsible, a CHL is not a guarantee of lawful behavior. According to the Violence Policy Center, 743 people have been shot to death by someone legally permitted to carry a concealed gun—and that's just since 2007. In addition, 29 mass shootings have been committed by CHL holders and 17 law enforcement officers have been killed by CHL holders.³

Florida, which could be eligible for reciprocity, issued 1,400 concealed carry permits to felons in 2007 alone.⁴ Between 2007 and 2011, North Carolina, another state which could be eligible, issued 2,400 concealed carry permits to people convicted of misdemeanor crimes or felonies.⁵

Furthermore, Ceasefire Oregon has concerns about the implementation and maintenance of the reciprocity data from the other states. HB 3093A would require the laws of all other states to be examined yearly to determine if changes have been made to the laws that would make a state eligible or ineligible for reciprocity with Oregon. That burden would fall on the Department of Justice and the cost would be borne by the Oregon taxpayer.

In addition to the list of states with reciprocity agreements, will Oregon also have a database of all CHL holders in the United States? If an armed driver is stopped by an Oregon police officer and the driver presents a paper CHL from another state, how will the police officer know that license is legitimate? The officer will rely on a database of all CHL holders in the United States. Who will pay to implement and maintain that database? Again, that cost will be borne by the Oregon taxpayer.

Remember, a CHL database would need to be constantly updated to reflect new CHL holders from other states as well as those non-residents who have had their CHLs revoked. Again, that cost will fall of the Oregon taxpayer.

How often will the Department of Justice be updated about the status of CHL holders in each state? How will that information be conveyed? How will disputes be handled if someone disagrees with the Department of Justice's decision about another state's reciprocity status?

Additionally, how will non-residents know Oregon's laws concerning concealed carry? Will all Oregon public schools be required to post signs stating that non-resident as well as Oregon CHL holders are welcome to carry their loaded, hidden Glocks right into the classrooms?

How helpful will this bill be to Oregonians? California does not have reciprocity so Oregon will not have reciprocity with California. Washington would not be eligible for Oregon reciprocity because Washington does not require training to obtain a CHL. Residents of states bordering Oregon can already obtain a CHL from an Oregon sheriff.

How does Oregon benefit from allowing more hidden, loaded guns in our state? It doesn't. The bill's sole "benefit"—saving some paperwork and perhaps a few dollars in CHL fees, for those few people—is far outweighed by the risk of having poorly trained CHL holders from other states carrying loaded, concealed handguns on our streets, into our Capitol building and in our schools.

HB 3093A places a great deal of risk and cost on Oregonians simply to extend a courtesy to a few Oregonians.

Ceasefire Oregon urges you to not support HB 3093A.

Sincerely,

Penny Okamoto
Executive Director
Ceasefire Oregon

1. States requiring live firing as part of the firearm training component of the law are Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, North Carolina, South Carolina and Texas.
<http://smartgunlaws.org/concealed-weapons-permitting-policy-summary/>
2. <http://www.delcode.delaware.gov/title11/c005/sc07/index.shtml#1441>
3. <http://concealedcarrykillers.org/>
4. Megan O'Matz and John Maines, "License to Carry: Florida's Flawed Concealed Weapon Law," Sun Sentinel, January 28, 2007, available at
http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2007-01-28/news/0701270316_1_gun-licensing-system
5. Michael Luo, "[Guns in Public, and Out of Sight,](#)" The New York Times, December 26, 2011, available at
<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/27/us/more-concealed-guns-and-some-are-in-the-wrong-hands.html?pagewanted=all&r=0>