Dear Committee Members,

I respectfully request that you drop the proposed amendments to Senate Bill 978. While gun safety is an important concern, the provisions of these amendments serve mainly to restrict, penalize, and intrude upon the privacy of law-abiding, responsible citizens.

• Responsible gun owners lock up their guns when the situation calls for it; irresponsible ones won't lock them up regardless of laws. Mandating how an owner locks up firearms puts an undue burden on responsible gun owners, making it difficult to access firearms when they are needed and making owners culpable if someone who doesn't own the gun breaches a lock.

• Requiring registration of guns is unnecessary unless officials intend someday to be able to confiscate the guns.

• Increasing CHL fees penalizes law-abiding responsible citizens. If the person has gone through the steps necessary to obtain the concealed handgun license, he/she has been trained in gun safety and is the least of Oregon's worries for gun safety. Increasing the fees appears to be harassment of law-abiding citizens exercising their 2nd Amendment rights.

• Gun owners should not be held responsible for 2 years for guns they transfer. The current owner of any gun should be responsible for it, not the previous owner.

• Public entities such as cities, counties, schools, and colleges should not be able to ban CHL holders from public buildings. This is a measure that would place multiple arbitrary and unpredictable restrictions on CHL carry.

• Banning CHL holders from airport grounds rather than just the terminal is again unnecessarily intrusive. Those who carry handguns for self-defense are then required to go without their means of self-defense not only in the airports, but for the entire trip to the airport. There is no evidence that airports are a dangerous place for gun possession, and this provision is superfluous to the entire TSA system.

Please uphold the 2nd Amendment rights of Oregonians.

Respectfully,

Gretchen Kirchner