

From: [Dean Packard](#)
To: [SJUD Exhibits](#)
Subject: Testimony SB978
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Please accept this as my testimony against SB978

I am very concerned about the potential consequences of these proposed amendments. Allowing business to discriminate against an individual based on age is just shameful. At the age of 18 an individual can be given a rifle to defend their country but under your law it would be illegal to purchase their own rifle in their own state. This insults those in service to the freedoms of the country on many levels.

The proposed mandates for firearms storage does not address safe handling but does makes the victim vulnerable to criminal charges if their firearms are stolen. This is an abhorrent misuse of the law. How can we rightfully make the victim responsible for a crime against them and others? Is the criminal no longer responsible for their own poor choices? If we hold people accountable to their decisions as the law now stands we recognize that it is the choice to commit a crime and the carrying out of that crime that is illegal, not having had the miss fortune of being victimized by a criminal. Will I soon be responsible for the crimes a person commits if they steal my vehicle?

Increasing CHL fees. What are we receiving for these increased fees? Every time the legislature meets in Salem it seems that fees go up & we never get anything to show for it except a lighter wallet.

New restrictions on CHL holders will create a very real potential for accidental criminal misconduct. Legally carrying a gun is not a criminal act and should not be treated as such. Criminalizing non-criminal behavior is overreaching & unconstitutional. This law will be instrumental in creating fear of ones own conduct in public spaces. Additionally the undue stress resulting from navigating a patchwork of unspecified public spaces will further deter people from seeking assistance from authorities when needed and further instill an concern about governmental intent with regard to private citizens and their daily lives.

For a governmental agency that has openly been working to minimize the legal consequences when criminals choose criminal behavior it seems ludicrous & lopsided to create unprecedented criminalization of safe and moral behavior. Attempts to enforce like laws in other areas are shown to be unenforceable and are failing to be supported by law enforcement or the public. Prohibition has never worked. It always creates a larger black market & a shameful view of the government and distain for its policies. If gun control really worked Chicago would be the safest place in the country.

As a lifelong Oregonian who has always worked to be an upstanding member of my community I will find myself outside the law with no change in behavior and never having endangered a soul.

Thank you for your time.

Dean Packard