

I, Timothy Ross submit this testimony in regards to SB 978 that I ask everyone to vote NO on.

These regulations allowing local authorities to decide where we can or can't defend ourselves is absurd. We have preemption law in this State for a reason. Persons carrying with a concealed carry license are not a problem in need of a solution. These regulations will not prevent any crimes but will certainly increase crime by leaving formerly protected Oregonians unprotected and creating opportunities for criminals.

**It will be nearly impossible for me and others to keep track of where we can or can't legally protect ourselves.** Trying to comply with this patchwork of places where we can and can't carry is a undue burden to the most law bidding citizens (CHL holders). CHL owners are the good guys and are not the problem of violent crime. These regulations are attack on people that are ideology opposed to the majority of Oregon legislators and are just a way to attack them as these measures will not reduce crime.

Worst of all it will lead to more soft targets and victims of crime especially women and elderly who may be more dependent on concealed carry to defend themselves. People who work in public buildings and grounds at night will be very vulnerable. The criminals will find that these new gun free public spaces are a variable buffet of victims.

I saw nothing that would prevent these regulations from applying to parks, campgrounds and State and County forest areas if buildings are on these grounds, publicly owned stadiums, public owned parking lots, private buildings that house public agencies, etc. The list could go on and on. I visit these places often and will have to leave my firearm in the car which could then be one to a break-in and theft.

It will be a nightmare for those who choose to conceal carry if this bill passes as written.

With the exception of Section 30 this entire bill is an awful mess of restrictions that will only target those who are not committing crimes now. These regulations allowing local authorities to prohibit concealed carry are the absolute worst in the entire bill. Only somebody with extreme contempt for the electorate of this State could let a bill like this become law.

I urge you to not let SB 978 out of Committee. Thank you- Timothy Ross