

SB 554 Testimony

I am opposed to this Bill. With limited existing police and sheriff coverage and with pressure to defund police departments, and more schools eliminating officers on campus, self protection needs are increasing, not decreasing. With passage of this bill there will be a patchwork of where a person with a concealed carry permit can legally possess a firearm. A person that has passed a background check and has been finger printed and identified can become a felon for the mere possession of a firearm in a public building. There are existing safeguards to prohibit firearms in courts and other areas that need to be secured. It is obvious that criminals will not obey existing laws nor any new ones, the only people affected are law abiding citizens that wish to provide for their own self protection. This bill will not protect from criminals that commit gun violence. It should be denied.

The increase in concealed weapon fees would appear to be punitive to it make more expensive to secure a license with nothing shown as a basis for the increased fees. The process to secure a license is not changing and to double the fees is much more than inflation for increased costs. I object to this fee increase.

Respectfully,
Robert N. Hart
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