

SB 554 Bans licensed carry in and around schools," public buildings," and airports, increases fees for concealed handgun licenses

I urge you to oppose this bill. Note that:

- This bill effectively restricts or prohibits access to publicly owned buildings and property by people who have subjected themselves to extensive evaluation and have been found by law enforcement to be responsible to carry a concealed weapon.
- This bill will effectively make it a crime to drop off a student at school or a passenger at an airport, for example, while exercising a constitutionally protected right.
- These licensed people have not done, nor are they likely to do, anything that would decrease public safety, yet they are being restricted or prohibited from accessing public facilities their tax dollars are paying for.
- The law resulting from this bill will run afoul of the D.C. vs Heller decision by largely prohibiting an individual's right to possess a firearm, unconnected with service in a militia, for traditionally lawful purposes.
- Allowing a hodge podge of ordinances/laws related to concealed carry creates nearly an entrapment situation due to the extreme difficulty of knowing in advance and tracking changes in those ordinances/laws.
- There is no evidence what-so-ever that restricting or prohibiting these licensed people from accessing publicly owned property will improve public safety.

Because there is no evidence to support a position that restricting or prohibiting these licensed people from accessing publicly owned property will increase public safety or provide a public benefit this bill is in violation of the plain reading of the Second Amendment and must be rejected on that basis.

Please stop the cruel persecution of law abiding citizens who have chosen to exercise their Second Amendment rights. Please pursue only legislation that will improve public safety while defending the constitution and the rights it protects.

Thank you for your service.

Erik Colville

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