

SB 554 is a draconian solution to a non-existent problem. Oregon concealed handgun licensees have not and do not engage in criminal gun violence in hospitals, airports, courts and governments buildings. There is simply no evidence of such conduct. Indeed, licensed concealed handgun carriers have prevented or interdicted criminal attacks in public venues.

Those persons intent on committing crimes of violence have no regard for any laws, licenses or rules that prevent the carry of concealed weapons. Only the law-abiding and responsible will suffer the impact of SB 554.

SB 554 will create a patchwork of prohibited zones around the state. Well-intentioned citizens will unknowingly violate this proposed law. Imposing a life-time felony conviction on a fellow citizen, who has no criminal intent, is disproportionate and manifestly unfair.

The existing statute works in its current form.