

OREGON STATE SHOOTING ASSOCIATION

Date: February 21, 2021

To: Chair, Senator Floyd Prozanski

Vice Chair, Senator Kim Thatcher

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

From: Rick Coufal, Legislative Director, Oregon State Shooting Association (OSSA)

Subject: OPPOSITION to SB554

I am the Legislative Director for the Oregon State Shooting Association, a life member of the National Rifle Association, Chief Instructor for the Estacada Rod & Gun Club and the NRA, a Front Lines Activist Leader for the NRA-ILA. As a board member for the Oregon State Shooting Association, we represent approximately 15,000 voting members in our association and member clubs here in Oregon. Additionally, we provide information to well over 100,000 Oregon hunters. We are strong believers in the 2nd Amendment and the Oregon Constitution and the rights and responsibilities of responsible firearm owners to enjoy safe, family-oriented shooting sports here in Oregon.

I would like to testify against SB554 which if enacted would further erode the rights of concealed handgun license holders here in Oregon by allowing local municipalities and airports to declare their jurisdictions to include buildings, parking areas, parks, or terminals as a “public building” for purposes of banning concealed carry firearms. Furthermore, it would make possession of a firearm in said locations, a crime (C Felony). SB554 will create a patchwork of inconsistent ordinances throughout Oregon that will inadvertently make felons of law-abiding citizens as they pass through the state.

SB554 enables municipalities and port authorities (airports) to make it illegal to travel with firearms for lawful hunting and sporting purposes. This bill will change Oregon’s image and will have NO impact on criminal use of firearms, SB554 will only impact and infringe upon the 2nd Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens here in Oregon and travelers that come to Oregon.

I would hope the intent of this bill is NOT to create felons out of normally law-abiding Oregonians, Concealed Handgun Permit holders and Hunters from other states who inadvertently enter a jurisdiction and find themselves in violation of the local gun restrictions and instantly become felons if stopped by the police.

I urge the members of the Senate Judicial Committee to vote NO on SB 554 to protect Oregonians rights to Safe family-oriented shooting sports throughout Oregon.