

Chairman and Esteemed Members:

As a retired Peace Officer (Calif.) and a long time Oregon Concealed Weapon Permit Licensee I wish to point out the conflict of having a system that very carefully screens licensees through the background check system, fingerprints, and photograph, and then restricting the locations in which they may exercise that privilege.

The news media is full of incidents where armed citizens have prevented or stopped the commission of crimes by the intervention of legally licensed CCW holders, and there are numerous incidents of lawful, successful self-defense incidents. Crime and insanity do not respect restricted areas or gun-free zones. Passage of SB 554 would only create another class of potential victims, those who chose to follow the law to start with by going through the licensing process and required training.

I urge you to vote NO on this bill.

Respectfully,

Craig North