

Dear: Senate Committee,

I am writing to you in regards to SB554. There should be NO restrictions on where a CHL holder can carry. Having a gun free zone and advertising it as such is a giant red flag for criminals that people in that area are an easy target. Making everyday law abiding citizens into criminals and removing their right to self defense is WRONG!! Criminals don't obey gun laws, never have and never will. They will still find ways to commit their crimes no matter what. All you are doing is removing peoples rights and freedoms to protect themselves. With crime and violence in this state skyrocketing, DO NOT restrict our right to defend ourselves. A gun is a tool, an inanimate object that is not going to cause an issue on its own. It's the intentions and actions of the person holding it, not the object itself. We don't have a gun problem, we have a moral, soul and heart problem. You don't like guns and don't want to carry, use or own one, fine, it's your choice but DO NOT restrict me and my right to do so if i so choose to or if needed. I feel so much safer having my firearm and being able to carry it with and have it for protection if it is needed. I have been in a few situations where I was so glad I had it with me.

Doubling the cost to obtain your CHL or to renew it, will make it much harder for people who need and want that protection to be able to afford it. Don't take away mine and other peoples right to be able to defend ourselves. Please choose our constitutional rights and freedoms over ignorance. I strongly urge you to vote NO on SB554.

Kristi Koivisto