

As an Oregon Resident with advanced degrees in public policy, criminology and criminal justice, I find SB 554 to be a very worrisome bill for a number of reasons, but I will list just a few:

1. It seems to decentralize (or make that possible) controlling authority for CHL carry. This will create chaos for the CHL holder who may fail to understand where prohibited zones are and, incidental to legal carry, the CHL holder (an OSP vetted and law-abiding individual), may seriously violate a law in one or more jurisdictions. This is why it is useful to (and exactly why we) have state preemption on this issue.
2. The expansive use of the term "public building" is vague and expansive...and may include (according to the version I read) public land, forests, and other areas where outdoors people use their CHL in self-defense against (for example) wild animals (e.g., we have a serious cougar problem where I am right now...I've had 15 encounters in the last 18 months). Similarly, with the expansive definition of the term "public building," we will likely see hunting and shooting sports impacted (depending on who decides to expand the use of that term to public lands). This has the unintended consequence, potentially, of reducing the number of hunters, fisherman (who wind up in very isolated places and often use their CHL) and other outdoorspeople who fear violating the law while in the outdoors. That will reduce revenue to ODFW and various other fee collection entities in the outdoors.
3. Finally, I don't see any practical purpose for this bill...it seems to add chaos to an otherwise stable system. CHL holders are the most law-abiding of gun owners and are vetted by OSP and local county sheriff's.

I don't support this bill as it stands now, it is far too broad. It needs to be tailored to suit a specific purpose in order to be additive to our rule of law system. As it stands, it would seem to seek to destabilize our rule of law system and create harm for CHL holders...by definition, the most law-abiding gun owner in our state.