

I oppose Senate Bill 554.

This bill appears to be a solution looking for a problem that does not exist.

My understanding is that there are over 270,000 permit holders in Oregon. Each and every one of those permit holders has gone to the Sheriff's department, has been fingerprinted, paid a fee and passed a background check.

This bill penalizes the most law-abiding Oregonians, over 8 percent of the population, would be at risk of a felony charge. And for what, simply being in a location deemed by almighty government to be off limits to self-defense? Has there been a problem with this in the past? The answer is no.

This bill is nothing but a felony trap, creating criminals from the least criminal minded of all Oregonians, why on earth would government want to do that?

CHL holders statistically as a group are involved in fewer criminal acts than are members of law enforcement.

There are no public safety issues at hand necessitating limiting CHL holders from access to locations specified in this bill, none at all.

Firearms are used defensively roughly 2.5 million times per year, more than four times as many as criminal uses.

One can only conclude that the driving force behind this bill is the fear or hatred of CHL holders and firearms - which is completely irrational considering crime statistics.

There are 21 states that honor Oregon CHL, none of those states regulate Oregon CHL holders as harshly as Oregon itself would if this horrible bill passes into law.

Having multiple state permits (requiring a background check for each) allows Oregon CHL holders to travel in or through 39 states in addition to Oregon while carrying a concealed firearm.

Yet the authors of this legislation would have CHL holders become a felon for picking up a passenger at PDX.

Government has no right whatsoever to tell the citizenry it cannot defend itself, dependent upon where you physically are. One side of the street and you are a felon, other side of the street, all is well. This is a horrible notion.

During this time of a pandemic, rioting and civil unrest in Portland, displaced Oregonians due to fire, unemployed Oregonians due to government dictates, this legislation is deemed emergency in nature?

This bill appears to be a payoff to the anti-firearms groups by a small number of state senators and should never see the light of day, let alone get out of committee.

Senator Burdick would prefer to have 8 per cent of Oregon's population become felons rather than have the right to defend themselves throughout the state.

Adding an emergency clause to this bill only confirms my believe that this bill is nothing more than a political crusade by Senator Burdick and others against CHL holders and firearms

One senators hatred of firearms and CHL holders is not reason enough to deny the rights of a substantial number of Oregonians to defend themselves everywhere.

Government passing laws based upon hatred and discrimination runs counter and contrary to American constitutional principles.

I'm a 5th generation Oregonian and have paid taxes to this state for 50 years. This bill is possibly the most discriminatory and hate filled legislation I have witnessed the Oregon legislature consider.

This bill should end in committee, Oregon government should not pride itself in being unjust, unfair, and against liberty and freedom for its citizens.

Regards.