

Good morning Chair and members of the Committee,

This CHL law will, like all other gun control laws, disproportionately affect the poor, who will not only have trouble paying the higher fees associated with acquiring and maintaining a CHL but much more importantly, will not be able to afford legal representation when they unknowingly violate a municipality's CHL law. Then they will be on the hook for an insanely large fine, but let's be honest here, will likely just end up in jail.

I am a mother and as of this week, I will have my CHL. I have my CHL to protect myself and my daughter, and others, when we are out of the home. This new law would make it impossible to keep up on where and how I can carry. It seems intent on making us all felons. Should I be a felon because there is no possible way to keep abreast of every new ordinance for CHL carriers in all the different counties and cities in Oregon? Am I really worthy of PRISON when I drop someone off at the airport? Why can agents of the government have easy access to firearms for protection but not a young mother? If you vote yes on this bill, not only will you be effectively taking away my right to defend the life of me and my daughter, but you are saying you don't want poor people to have the same protection as those who can afford to fight for their rights in our broken legal system. Let it also not be lost on you, that the larger an area's minority population, the stricter their gun laws. How is this not seen as racist? How is it not seen as racist to expect minority populations to rely on police for personal protection? How, after the events of this summer, and the sentiments expressed by democrats about the protests could the left by their own logic even WANT minority populations or the poor to put their lives wholly and totally under corrupt police departments? I consider myself a feminist: how can women protect themselves from violent or aggressive men, who are clearly biologically stronger, without access to a handgun?

I am a very proud libertarian, registered with the Oregon Libertarian Party, and anti-war and violence to the core, and I am shaken to my very bones that the former director of the CIA, John Brennan, referred to libertarians as domestic terrorists after the events of January 6th. I am TERRIFIED to hear the events at the Capitol referred to as an "armed insurrection", all while multiple cities experienced WEEKS of violent riots over this summer, all being cheered on by many politicians on the left and some on the right. The hypocrisy is astounding. People rioting about BLM have free reign to destroy property and practice violence, but if you want to protest the way the government has handled the COVID shutdowns or possible election fraud, you are a "domestic terrorist." Do not forget that Joe Biden claims responsibility for the Patriot Act, a hideous piece of legislation that eroded civil rights for American citizens. Now he and many democrats want similar legislation for Domestic Terrorism, and this bill seems to be helping them pave the way for that. Has the left completely lost its way? The left used to stand for free speech, civil liberties, privacy rights, and looking out for the underdog. I see none of that now. The more laws and regulations you pass, the more you try and "protect" us from threats that never actualize, the more you keep us chained and dependent on the state for protection and livelihood, and nothing is more dangerous for those who "have not" than constantly being under the large and destructive thumb of the state. Thank you for your time.