

Chair Prozanski, Vice-chair Thatcher

My name is Jason Flaherty.

I come before you in opposition to Senate Bill 554

I feel this bill is a direct violation of the concept of a Concealed Handgun Licence (CHLs). CHL holders are among the most law-abiding segments of society. I am less worried for my family and friends knowing that CHL holders are among the public surrounding me.

CHL holders constantly save lives by being 'there' and stopping or at least slowing an attacker until police can arrive. CHL holders have stopped active shooter situations in schools, churches and other areas where the public have been heavily congregated saving many precious lives the criminal desires to take. Violent criminals will always use unlawful means to harm lawful citizens. CHL holders do, lawfully, prevent violent crime.

Currently in order for an individual in Oregon to obtain a CHL, they must be an upright, responsible, handgun trained citizen. Please reward this good behavior by trusting the citizens of Oregon to obtain their CHL legally, carry their firearm without restrictions and add this additional protective measure to our public spaces.

Thank you for your time.