

Submitter: Amie Wexler
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2007

Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Andersen and Walan, and members of the House Judiciary Committee:

My name is Amie Wexler and I'm the volunteer State Legislative Lead for Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. I have been volunteering with Moms Demand Action since the shooting at Umpqua Community College in 2015. I am an attorney and a mother of two, including an 18 year old senior at Grant High School in Portland.

I am asking that the committee vote to pass HB 2007 out of committee to prevent concealed carry weapons from being brought into sensitive places like city and county buildings and the surrounding grounds.

In 2021 I was one of the volunteers with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America who testified in support of SB 554, which banned guns from the Capitol, the airport, and gave school districts the opportunity to ban guns from school grounds. I also helped advocate for school districts to pass this policy to protect children and teachers from the accidental shootings that can happen from a concealed carry weapon being brought onto school grounds. School districts across the state have passed this policy, from Tillamook, Siuslaw, and Astoria on the coast to Pendleton and Bend in the east, to Salem, Eugene, Hillsboro, and Portland in the valley. Plus dozens more. We know that Oregonians want concealed carry weapon holders to keep their guns at home and not in spaces where children gather..

We also know that guns should be prohibited from city and county buildings. There are sometimes hearings on contentious topics or anger toward elected officials. They should not have to fear that someone has brought their gun with them to a hearing and might retaliate against the governing body or other city or county employees. We need action today to protect folks from both angry constituents and unintentional shootings that can happen when a gun is discharged.

Thank you for taking action to protect Oregonians from gun violence. I appreciate your dedication to safety.