

Submitter: Sean Connolly
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2007

For consideration by the House Committee On Judiciary;

As an honorably retired law enforcement executive and a concerned citizen of Oregon, I urge you to OPPOSE this ineffective and wrongly targeted bill.

First, this bill largely only impacts those people who have successfully sought the permission of the State of Oregon, via their local Sheriff, to carry a concealed firearm after training and background checks. These people, who went to the effort to receive this permission, have been shown through policy research to be a more law abiding subset of the public. I have yet to hear any trending credible evidence that this subset of people have become a problem in society, let alone that they are committing violent crimes. Yet political capital and effort is being directed toward this group with little expected public benefit. However there is a likely negative impact on this subset group due to the next issue.

Second, this bill, by weakening state pre-emption laws, is creating a larger and larger patchwork of restrictions using undefined terms such as "adjacent grounds" that will become a literal legal mine field for those permit holders. Remember: they already sought and obtained the permission of the government to carry a firearm. The power and resources of the State should not be used to create new potential crimes when there is little to no evidence that a problem exists currently.

Please use the power and authority of government to prosecute those who have violated existing laws using firearms. There is increasing evidence that with current policies and staffing this is not being done well or often, particularly in larger metropolitan areas.

Thank you for your anticipated consideration.