

Testimony of Art Novotny in OPPOSITION to SB1

There are already plenty of restrictions on where firearms may be legally carried, that are continually ignored by those who carry firearms illegally. Adding to the list will not change criminal behavior but will potentially entrap legal (taxed, trained and vetted) citizens like me.

For me personally, one of the most troublesome locations is restaurants. I do not consume alcohol, at all, ever. Should my right to self defense end just because I am in a location where people do?

It looks to me like the owner of a restaurant that serves alcohol, who would previously have had a Good and Substantial Reason under the old permitting system to carry a firearm when closing up and transporting the days' revenue out of the establishment can no longer legally do that. That seems particularly unsafe and unfair, though I suspect many will do it anyway.

All of these new restricted locations are going to leave a lot more firearms temporarily stored in vehicles where they can be stolen instead of on the owner's person, where they are most secure. The transition from on-person to in-vehicle storage (and vice-versa) also increases the risk for accidental discharges which endangers bystanders. Firearms are most safe and secure holstered on the body of someone trained to use and protect them.

This bill will only affect good people.

Go after the bad guys for once.

Thank you,
Art Novotny
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