

The community colleges of Idaho, CSI, CWI and NIC are united in their support with the Idaho Universities and State Board of Education in opposing Senate Bill 1254. The community colleges of Idaho currently have long standing policies that were developed by locally elected trustees that do not allow guns on campus.

SB1254 significantly erodes a basic Idaho value: Local Control of Government. The legislation would strip community college boards of trustees' ability to effectively govern their own campuses, taking key decision making authority from their control.

Our campuses are a gathering place; a place where children of all ages come to learn, to experience, a place where our community gathers- infants, toddlers, grade school, middle school children as well as seniors are on our campus each and every day. We have a significant number of high school students who take their dual credit courses right on our campus. We are not an "adult age" only student body and there is no evidence that allowing guns on campus creates a safer environment as this proposed legislation purports.

There are several instances where the proposed legislation is inconsistent at best in how it addresses the requirements of those would be permitted to carry a live firearm on campus. It requires a private citizen comply with the provisions of the Idaho Enhanced Conceal Carry Permit License. The Enhanced Carry License requires an individual be 21 years of age, be a legal resident of Idaho for 6 consecutive months, submit to a background check, complete one single 8-hour class, pay a \$20 application fee, and complete a single session of 98 rounds at a firing range. The Enhanced License is good for 5-years, with no additional training or firing range time required. 5 years. (Idaho Code 18-3302K)

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The requirements for retired law enforcement officers: Must have 15 years experience in law enforcement, complete and comply with all the requirements of a regular conceal carry permit (Idaho Code 18-3302) and additionally, complete the standards for that training within the past 12 months, meaning they must never be more than 11 months 29 days out from conceal carry training. The bill would give more latitude to non-former law enforcement than regular citizens.

If the purpose of the legislation is to provide the ability for trained, responsible gun owners to carry live firearms on an Idaho college/university campus in order to provide an increased measure of safety and response time in the event of a live shooter on campus- then why would the proponents/authors of this bill make it harder, 5x's harder, for trained former law enforcement to provide that element?

The bill exempts large seating capacity arenas/venues. However, in the statistically rare instances when there has been an active shooter on a campus, it has been in a classroom or smaller gathering place; not the basketball arena or dormitory.

In Idaho, generally speaking, we resist Washington DC mandating what they think is best for the citizens of our state. How is it any different when out-of-state lobbyists coerce the Idaho Legislature into doing the same upon the locally elected, municipal governments in our various communities? This is a litmus test for local control.

The community colleges of Idaho have taken the position to oppose SB 1254 introduced by Senator Curt McKenzie from Nampa. This position is support by our Boards of Trustees as well and staff, faculty, and students who support current policies that do not allow guns on campus.

This proposed legislation is another attempt of the failed 2011 proposed legislation that many pro-2nd amendment supporters continue to think is a bad idea from its unsupported premise to its flawed implementation.