



The Honorable Greg Smith
Oregon House of Representatives
District 57

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Smith, AFSCME Introduce Legislation to Protect Corrections Workers' Second Amendment Rights

SALEM – [State Representative Greg Smith \(R-Heppner\)](#) is teaming up with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) to introduce a bill allowing Department of Corrections personnel to possess personal, licensed firearms within their vehicles on DOC property.

Current Department of Administrative Services rules prohibit guns in any vehicles on prison property.

“DAS rules should not indiscriminately set aside our employees’ Second Amendment rights,” said Smith. “These are public safety professionals; many of whom have proper and legal concealed weapon permits. They should not be required to remove their personal, licensed firearms from their vehicles on their way to work.”

Oregon AFSCME Communications Director Don Loving notes it’s an issue of personal and public safety for the workers.

“These are hard-working Oregonians serving the public by overseeing felons,” said Loving. “Many of those felons are eventually released. Sometimes situations occur with inmates’ family members. Corrections workers should have the same rights as any other Oregonian when they are in transit to or from work.”

Smith and union representatives will formally introduce House Bill 2910 at a press conference on Wednesday, February 20, at 1:30 pm in the capitol press room.

House Bill 2910 has the bi-partisan support of several co-sponsors, including [Sen. Arnie Roblan \(D-Coos Bay\)](#), [Rep. Jeff Baker \(D-Aloha\)](#), [Rep. Cliff Bentz \(R-Ontario\)](#), [Rep. Sal Esquivel \(R-Medford\)](#), [Rep. John Huffman \(R-The Dalles\)](#), [Rep. Bob Jenson \(R-Pendleton\)](#), [Rep. Greg Matthews \(D-Gresham\)](#), [Rep. Kim Thatcher \(R-Keizer\)](#), [Rep. Gene Whisnant \(R-Sunriver\)](#) and [Rep. Gail Whitsett \(R-Klamath Falls\)](#).

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