



SENATOR CHARLES SCHWERTNER, MD
SENATE DISTRICT 5

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Schwertner Joins Birdwell as Joint Author
of Campus Personal Protection Act**

SB 11 will allow licensed adults to carry concealed handguns for personal protection on public university campuses.

AUSTIN, TX -- Today, Senator Charles Schwertner (R-Georgetown) joined with Senator Brian Birdwell (R-Granbury) as a joint author of SB 11, also known as the Campus Personal Protection Act. If passed, SB 11 would allow students, faculty, and staff members with concealed handgun licenses (CHL) to carry firearms for personal protection on Texas' public university campuses.

"No one should be forced to surrender their God-given, constitutional right to self-defense just because they set foot on a college campus," said Schwertner. "I have always been a strong defender of the Second Amendment, and for me, this bill is simply about ensuring that licensed, responsible, and law-abiding adults have the right to protect themselves on the campuses of public colleges and universities."

To obtain a CHL in Texas, individuals must be at least 21 years of age (or active-duty military), pass a state and federal background check, submit fingerprints to the Department of Public Safety (DPS), and complete a comprehensive DPS training course, including a live-fire shooting proficiency test. Applicants cannot be chemically dependent, of unsound mind, or delinquent in paying official fines, fees, or child support.

"I'm a CHL holder myself, and it's important to realize that this bill would only apply to those individuals who first complete a comprehensive DPS training course, pass an extensive state and federal background check, and are at least 21 years of age -- to me, that's more than reasonable. I'm honored to join with Senator Birdwell in supporting the rights of licensed, responsible adults to lawfully carry firearms on the campus of a state college or university."

In November 2014, Dr. Charles Schwertner was overwhelmingly reelected to serve the citizens of Senate District 5, a ten-county region of central and east Texas. Following the 83rd Legislative Session, Senator Schwertner was named a "Courageous Conservative" by the Texas Conservative Coalition, a "Lone Star Conservative Leader" by the Texas Conservative Roundtable, and "Senate Freshman of the Year" by Texas Monthly magazine.

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