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DONNA CAMPBELL, MD
DISTRICT 25

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Sen. Campbell Files Clarity to Carry Bill

SB 311 Removes Restrictions at Hospitals, Nursing Homes

Austin -- State Senator Donna Campbell filed legislation Thursday to expand the rights of CHL holders to carry in more places. SB 311, otherwise known as the Clarity to Carry Bill, clarifies conflicting language in state statute by removing restrictions that have kept some privately-owned entities - such as hospitals and nursing homes - from permitting CHL holders from lawfully carrying on their premises.

"Statistics show that concealed handgun license holders are the safest, most responsible gun owners in Texas. It makes no sense to force hospitals and nursing homes to disarm the good guys while violent offenders break the law," Senator Campbell said.

Under current state law, private property owners may decide whether or not to allow CHL holders to carry on their premises by posting a sign. However, in the case of hospitals, nursing homes, and amusement parks, the right to make that decision has been removed by the state. SB 311 seeks to return that decision to the private business or property owner.

"If a privately owned business - hospital or otherwise - wants to allow CHL holders to lawfully carry, they should be able to exercise that right. The state shouldn't be taking that liberty away from them," Senator Campbell said. "That decision belongs in the hands of the property owner, not the government."

Senator Campbell has been recognized for her legislative work by gun-rights groups and advocates going back to last session when she successfully reduced the number of required classroom hours to qualify for a CHL. She has already filed two CHL-related bills for the 84th Legislature.

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Senator Donna Campbell represents Senate District 25 which includes all or parts of Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Hays, Kendall and Travis counties. She is a practicing emergency room physician and mother of four who lives in New Braunfels.