

NEWSLETTER MAY 5, 2009

Just to update everyone with what we know of out there on legislation that may affect your rights to carry before we leave for the Phoenix NRA annual and firearms seminar.

THIS COMES FROM THE CONCEALED CARRY ON CAMPUS GROUPS –

There are six days left for Concealed Carry on Campus to continue forward in Texas. House Bill (HB) 1893, to allow those licensed law abiding adults with CHL permits to protect themselves on campus as they can everywhere else, has passed committee but must be scheduled for an up or down vote in the house by the House Calendars committee.

Bills must be passed in one house by May 11th or they die and we will not have another chance until 2011. If you have not called before, or if you have called in the past, we MUST have you call now to get this legislation pass.

To be passed the bill must be set by the House Calendars Committee now. Please contact the following members of the committee and politely tell them how important it is to you that HB 1893 gets a vote. It is not necessary to have a long conversation, just call and communicate your support and the necessity for an up or down vote. It would be an absolute shame if a bill that has the official support of half the house and has successfully gone through committee was unable to pass only because it was never scheduled for a vote. Notice that only the last four digits of their phone numbers are different, this should make the calls a little more convenient.

House Calendars Committee

Brian McCall (chair) (512) 463 0594
Eddie Lucio III (512) 463 0606
Norma Chavez (512) 463 0622
Garnet Coleman (512)463 0524
Byron Cook (512) 463 0730
Brandon Creighton (512) 463 0726
Charlie Geren (512) 463 0610
Jim Keffer (512) 463 0656
Lois Kolkhorst (512) 463 0600
Edmund Kuempel (512) 463 0602
Jim McReynolds (512) 463 0490
Allan Ritter (512) 463 0706
Burt Solomons (512) 463 0478

If this is a matter you want to see go forward, be sure to call these member and encourage them to schedule HB 1893 for a vote.

CIFTA Gun Treaty

We have seen this treaty and it does not appear that it will do anything to help the American Citizen for safety or rights. Be sure to comment to your congressmen about the ratification of such a treaty. You can see the treaty yourself at <http://www.oas.org/juridico/English/treaties/a-63.htm> .

NRA-ILA report

Legislation To Restore Concealed Carry in National Parks Introduced

Friday, April 03, 2009

On Thursday, April 2, U.S. Senators Mike Crapo (R-Idaho), Max Baucus (D-Mont.), Bob Bennett (R-Utah), Jon Tester (D-Mont.), and Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.) introduced legislation (S.816) to restore the Second Amendment rights of visitors in national parks and wildlife refuges (its companion bill, H.R. 1684 was introduced last week by Congressman Doc Hastings (R-Wash.). The current Department of the Interior (DOI) regulations were amended by the Bush Administration in 2008, allowing law-abiding citizens to defend themselves by carrying a concealed firearm in national parks and wildlife refuges. However, early this year, a federal district court in Washington, D.C. granted anti-gun plaintiffs a preliminary injunction against implementation of the new rule. The NRA has been working for the past several years in the regulatory, legal, and legislative arenas to achieve this policy change.

"NRA would like to thank this bi-partisan group of Senators for leading the legislative effort to strengthen Right-to-Carry laws on federal parklands. Senator Crapo has been at the forefront of this fight from the very beginning, along with Senator Baucus," said NRA-ILA Executive Director Chris W. Cox. "NRA is committed to changing the old, outdated rule, and will continue to work aggressively with Congress to pass this critical legislation. NRA will continue to pursue every avenue to defend the American people's right of self-defense."

This bill would provide uniformity across our nation's federal lands and put an end to the patchwork of regulations that governed different lands managed by different federal agencies. In the past, only Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service lands allowed the carrying of firearms, while National Parks and Wildlife Refuges did not. This move will restore the rights of law-abiding gun owners who wish to transport and carry firearms for lawful purposes on most DOI lands, and will make federal law consistent with the state law in which these lands are located.

"This is a common-sense measure. Senators Crapo, Baucus, Bennett, Tester and Lincoln should be commended for their efforts to allow law-abiding gun owners the option of protecting themselves in our federal parks and refuges. This legislation will amend out-of-date regulations and restore the Second Amendment rights of American gun owners," concluded Cox.

Please be sure to contact your U.S. Senators and Representative and ask them to cosponsor and support S. 816 and H.R. 1684! *You can call your U.S. Senators at (202) 224-3121, and your U.S. Representative at (202) 225-3121.*

FROM THE WEATHERFORD DEMOCRAT NEWSPAPER:

Estes resolution aimed at defending Texas gun rights

AUSTIN — State Senator Craig Estes (R-Wichita Falls) filed Senate Concurrent Resolution 54 to express opposition to federal legislation he feels is infringing on individual rights to keep and bear arms.

"The right to keep and bear arms is fundamental to the founding of our republic and a cornerstone to our personal freedoms," Estes said. "I filed this resolution, in coordination with Governor Perry, to express in no uncertain terms our state's opposition to proposed federal legislation that would do irreparable harm to our Second Amendment rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution."

The resolution reasserts the Constitution's "right to keep and bear arms to protect oneself, one's family and one's

possessions from either the lawlessness of other persons or the tyranny of the government.”

Senate Concurrent Resolution 54 specifically opposes the Blair Holt’s Firearm Licensing and Record Sale Act of 2009 filed in the United States Congress, which would require all firearm owners to apply for and carry a federally issued license in order to keep any firearm in their homes.

“I urge our members of Congress representing Texas to do all they can to stop the Blair Holt’s Firearm Licensing and Record Sale Act of 2009 from being passed into law and to help stand firm for our rights,” Estes said.

Hope this information helps and let us know if we can assist you.

Ross and Dottie Bransford

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