

11 February 2021

House Committee on Judiciary

Re: House Bill 2543

To: Chair Representative Bynum, Vice-Chairs Representatives Noble and Power, and members Representatives Dexter, Helm, Kropf, Lewis, Morgan, Wallan and Wilde.

Considering the resources available to the state for examination of individuals' background and history, the default position for receiving a firearm ought to be "innocent until proven guilty." If there is no evidence that would indicate the person would be a threat there is no valid reason to prohibit the transfer. The law of *innocent until proven guilty* is a bedrock of our system of justice.

Prohibiting a citizen from buying a firearm due to an inability of the state police is essentially convicting the person of some "supposed" or "imagined" offense without evidence or proof of any sort. It also says the state does not trust its citizens. The legislation does nothing to promote cooperation between the state apparatus and the citizenry.

This bill codifies restraint on a right in the absence of any criminal history, the exact *infringement* that is prohibited by the 2nd Amendment

Lastly, it does nothing to prevent those who really should not have a firearm from obtaining one. By definition—criminals do not obey laws.

I strongly urge the Committee not to pass this misguided legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Wisner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard Wisner

Lincoln County