

I am disappointed to have to respond to this HB 2543 Bill, and likely many more this session, which seek to further restrict the free exercise of the inalienable and Constitutionally acknowledged and protected rights of the citizens of this State. I consider every public employee, elected and otherwise, to have a fiduciary responsibility to their employer, the citizens of this State and me as an individual, to act in a responsible, lawful, and prompt manner which provides the greatest benefit to me in all matters that come before them.

As I understand it, the general purpose of this Bill is to eliminate the current law provision which requires the transfer of the firearm to the Transferee after a set period of time after the initiation of the NICS background check in the circumstance where the regulating agency does not disqualify the Purchaser from taking possession of the firearm within the statutory review period. It seems to me that, in this age of every thing digital, the current statutory delay period to deliver the firearm is sufficiently adequate to resolve any discrepancies in the records of the Purchaser. Beyond that, you can well recognize that the reasons for a firearms transfer can run the gamut from seller needing money, selling a firearm that isn't desirable, estate reduction, etc., and on the part of the purchaser, the desire to obtain a new or different firearm, hobby, add to a collection, the real or perceived fear of personal assault or injury, or simply the desire to exercise the fundamental and individual right to keep and bear arms. An extended delay of transfer can and will result in all kinds of consequences, both intended and unintended.

I do not believe this proposed Bill provides any enhancement of personal or public safety. You need only to look at the number of individuals who are charged with felony possession of a firearm, many of them being repeat offenders. I submit that the capacity of our prisons be increased and these repeat felons be held for significant periods of time, this would enhance safety. Also, I submit that we re-establish a system of institutions to which those with mental issues can be safely and humanely housed and which can provide them with medical and psychological treatment. (PS: this would also eliminate the "need" for the recently enacted and patently unconstitutional "Red Flag" statute.)

Of the tens of thousands of laws, regulations, and rules currently of record in this country, they all seek to enhance "safety" by restricting the right of the individual to do certain things with certain items in certain places and to punish offenders. I am 72 years old, and I have yet to receive even a traffic citation in my lifetime. I am not the one to whom these laws should apply, but I am the one that will obey them. I think it is about time that we get serious about "punishing" the offenders.

I oppose this HB 2543 and I oppose any effort to promote this Bill and others like it as sensible and responsible legislation.

Respectfully,  
Gary Langlitz