

Submitter: Tony Fields
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB348

Your friends, neighbors and constituents who own and use firearms legally are not the problem, and thus, restricting the rights of honest citizens will not make any of us safer. Therefore, I humbly urge and implore you to cease attempting to reduce the rights of honest citizens and stop supporting any level of anti-gun legislature now, and in the future – especially SB 348 and HB 2005, HB 2006 and HB 2007

The one thing all of these misguided proposals have in common is they won't reduce crime. Criminals, by definition, are lawbreakers. They are not deterred by laws against murder, rape, armed robbery, etc., and they won't be affected by additional gun control laws on top of the tens of thousands of existing laws we have on the books at every governmental level. Outlawing illicit drugs have not prevented anyone from having access to them, and stripping the rights of honest citizens to own and carry firearms will not prevent a criminal from committing gun violence.

The argument I always ask myself is, "If this restriction were being placed on the First Amendment (or any other, really) instead of the Second, what would be the proper response to it?" If the answer is civil unrest - as would certainly be the case if we all had to request permission in the form of applying for and paying a fee to obtain a special permit from our County Sheriff in order to utilize our Second Amendment right to purchase / own / carry a firearm first amendment right to free speech, pay a fee to both the FBI for a criminal background check to be performed as well as to the Sheriff's office to have our fingerprints taken, and then wait weeks to see if you actually receive a license. Consider also that your license allows you to carry a weapon speak freely only in your home state, as there is no national reciprocity for carrying a weapon speaking freely, and that you will face the very real possibility of fines and imprisonment for carrying a concealed weapon speaking freely in any other State because there isn't a national standard - then I can't support it. Frankly, I don't believe you should either. In fact, I believe that you should be ashamed for proposing and supporting any effort to reduce any portion of the protections afforded to all Americans by the Constitution, even more so when said restrictions affect the Bill of Rights.

As a veteran of the Marine Corps, I swore an oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. As an elected official, you also swore an oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.

I remember my oath, do you?

