

Submitter: David Lowrey  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: SB527

You are committing legislative malfeasance by attempting to pass a law that has already been ruled UNconstitutional . . .

As reported by CBS News:

Federal court says restrictions on handgun sales to people under 21 are unconstitutional.

In a 2-1 decision by a three-judge panel of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, the court found that 18-year-olds possess the constitutional right to keep and bear arms and said the restrictions at issue in the legal battle amount to a "total ban" on buying a handgun from a licensed firearms dealer for those under the age of 21.

"Looking through this historical lens to the text and structure of the Constitution reveals that 18- to 20-year-olds have Second Amendment rights. Virtually every other constitutional right applies whatever the age. And the Second Amendment is no different," the court said in its decision.

The divided panel of the 4th Circuit noted the nation's "most cherished constitutional rights" vest no later than the age of 18, and said that at the time of the nation's founding, 18-year-olds were required to serve in the militia and provide their own weapons.

"Despite the weighty interest in reducing crime and violence, we refuse to relegate either the Second Amendment or 18- to 20-year-olds to a second-class status," Judge Julius Richardson, wrote for the two-judge majority.

It's time for the legislature to stop harassing law abiding citizens with laws that do nothing but restrict legal possession of firearms while giving criminals that ignore the law a pass by releasing them back into society where they recommit crimes with firearms.

If you keep the criminals in prison, you can reduce the crime rate by fifty percent. It's really that simple.

Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.

Benjamin Franklin

Thank you