

Submitter: Joseph Segalla  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

Good afternoon,

There are several things in HB 3075 that I am opposed to. These include:

I opposed the proposed increase in fees for initial permit and renewal. It is likely that M114 would not have passed with fees that high. As it is, the proponents were arguing on TV that the \$65 initial and \$40 renewal fees were very reasonable. I know some people whose deciding factor in voting for M114 was the permit fee and that "as long as it's only \$65 then I think that's reasonable". Personally I don't think there should be any fee for the permit or the training required to get it since the training is for something related to a Constitutional right. And to the people that try to use the argument "well we have to pay for a drivers license so why not pay for a permit to purchase a firearm", I point out that driving on public streets is a privilege, not a Constitutional right.

I oppose the part of HB 3075 that would limit satisfaction of the firearms training requirement for military veterans' to military firearms qualifications received only in the past 10 years. The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), a federally regulated organization that sells old former military semiautomatic pistols (like the Colt 1911 and semiautomatic rifles like the M1 Garand) to civilians, allows all military firearms qualification, regardless of when that qualification occurred, as one of the ways to satisfy its requirement for proof of firearms training prior to purchase. Besides that, the authors of the bill don't seem to realize that the military long ago quit requalifying servicemembers on firearms after the initial qualification, as a way to save on ammunition costs. A military member might go to the range to recertify whenever they transfer to another job that requires carrying firearms, but that recertification will only show up on the local armorers records and not on the discharge certificate when veteran leaves the service. Only the initial qualification will show up on the discharge certificate. Not allowing all veterans with firearms qualifications, regardless of when it happened, also does a great disservice to those older veterans who served during a time when military firearms qualification training was 3-5 times as long as it today. I enlisted in the early 1980's, and my boot camp class spent an entire 5 days at the shooting range qualifying on firearms including a full day of firearms safety at the beginning. And that was when a recruit would get slapped up side of the head if they did anything safe. Do you really think that we forget safe operation of firearms just because we went through that 40 years ago? Firearms are no more advanced today, so you can't make that argument that we don't understand them. There are just more firearm design options now.

I opposed the part of HB 3075 that would raise the time allowed for a permit processor to make a decision on permit approval. Even allowing 30 days in M114 was barely reasonable, so doubling that to 60 days is an unacceptable delay in a citizen's Constitutional right to keep and bear arms. The state should instead ensure that the resources are allotted to process the permits within the limits established by M114. Remember, M114 barely passed. Allowing more than 60 days in M114 would most certainly have resulted in it getting voted down.

I also opposed the part of HB 3075 that would over ride federal law and mandate that no firearms could transfer until the background check is complete. When the federal law for background checks was passed, the 72 hour provision for allowing firearm transfer without a background check was specifically not as a loophole for, but to put the onus where it belong on the government to complete background checks within 72 hours or less. And since M114 was voted on, OSP has sometimes had delays of 3-4 weeks in processing background checks. Make a law that requires OSP to process in 72 hours, not punish purchases because OSP isn't doing its job.

Thank you.