

Capitol City Rifle and Pistol Club

P.O. Box 1025
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Good afternoon Senator Lachowitz, Representative Graham, distinguished members of the Committee on State and Local Government. I am Dennis Crowell, and I am here on behalf of the 848 members of Capitol City Rifle and Pistol Club located on Civic Center Drive in North Augusta.

We oppose LD 1122 for three basic reasons.

First, restrictions on possession of firearms are only observed by lawful citizens. People with criminal intent freely ignore "Gun Free Zones" as was the case at Virginia Tech, the Aurora movie theatre and Sandy Hook elementary school. In fact, being a "Gun Free Zone" is often the magnet that attracts the criminally deranged, as was the case in Aurora where James Holmes traveled past another movie theatre, showing the same movie, on his way to Aurora. The only difference was that the first theatre did not have a firearms prohibition.

Second, the patchwork of restrictions that would result from this legislation would impose a major burden on those of us who frequently exercise our constitutional right to bear arms. Can we or can we not stop at city hall to renew our vehicle registration? Can we combine a trip to city hall with our weekly trip to the supermarket, or do we need to schedule separate trips? These restrictions would unduly burden the lawful citizen as they go about their daily chores, business, and life.

Third, the imposition of these restrictions would soon be followed by demands for security screening at all municipal buildings, resulting in a replication of the charade now being played out in the rotunda of the State House. This security screening is only effective when dealing with law abiding citizens; people with nefarious motives can always circumvent such misguided programs. It is quite ironic that the political class can ask the citizens to trust them with their vote and then demonstrate such lack of trust in the citizenry.

It is for these reasons that we ask you to vote Ought Not To Pass on LD 1122.

Respectfully;

Dennis Crowell for
Capitol City Rifle and Pistol Club