

Monday, March 01, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is in FAVOR of HB0845- Public Safety- Permit to Carry, Wear, or Transport a Handgun- Qualifications.

I believe this is a move in the right direction. With the crime in our area on the rise and the fact that law abiding citizens can't protect themselves outside of the home, it just encourages more crime. Being able to carry, wear, or transport a handgun is also protected by our second amendment rights, which cannot be ignored. It was written in as a precaution and is necessary to ensure every other right we have. We have had strict gun laws in place since at least 2013 and our crime rates are still increasing. These strict gun laws are NOT WORKING. It just ensures to criminals that law abiding citizens can't fight back; they are unable to protect themselves. Having more people who are fully trained and knowledgeable about firearms being able to carry will deter crime. Most crimes are committed due to opportunity, if we make these criminals second guess the safety of their crime for themselves- we would see a decrease in crime.

My sister was recently approached at the local Wegmans by a man pretending to be lost and needing help. Thankfully, my sister's instincts told her he was not being genuine. When she told him through the car window that she couldn't help him he attempted to break the window to get at her. She pulled off and later went back to report the incident to the police. When she went back she was told that there have been many incidents in that particular parking lot of this happening. At that point I got on the phone to all my family and friends to spread the news and found out this has happened to multiple other women I know. None of these women have a criminal record and under this bill would be eligible to protect themselves if they were not able to escape. One of them is ex-military; clearly fully trained on firearm safety and handling.

I truly hope you consider the positive impact this bill would offer our community. I am sure many of you are licensed to carry, why not afford every other law abiding citizen that opportunity?

Thank You,

Rachael Siani

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