

Subject: HB0863 - Gun Theft Felony Act - STRONGLY SUPPORT

Dear Chair Bartlett, Vice Chair Davis, and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

Your committee will hear the above bill on Wednesday, February 25.

This bill has been rejected in previous legislative sessions, but I hope you will be able to reconsider it this year as you understand the implications.

Currently, theft of a firearm is a misdemeanor. Theft of a vehicle, of any value, is a felony! Why the discrepancy?

Guns are a serious threat to public safety. Thefts of guns should carry appropriate penalties; classifying them as felonies could correct this. If you are serious about reducing violent crime, please pass this bill. The theft of guns generally leads to serious crimes. Gun theft is considered a felony in most states.

Please give HB0863 a FAVORABLE report.

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