

POINT BLANK

**STRAIGHT TALK
ABOUT WHAT YOU
CAN DO TO
PRESERVE YOUR
RIGHT TO KEEP AND
BEAR ARMS**



**October
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CCRKBA URGES SENATE TO CONSIDER CCW BILL

John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director urged the Committee on the Judiciary of the United States Senate to consider the proposed Respecting States Rights and Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2009, S. 845.

Even though the substance of the bill was considered earlier in the current Congress by the full Senate, in 2009, it was taken up as a proposed amendment to another bill and fell just a couple votes short of the 60 votes agreed upon and needed to add it as an amendment to the pending bill. This indicated it had enough support in the Senate to receive the 51 votes it needed to pass as an independent bill.

Snyder's recommendation came in a statement submitted to the Committee as part of a proposed consideration of "Firearms in Commerce: Assessing the Need for Reform in the Federal Regulatory Process."

In a CCRKBA message to the Committee, Snyder wrote, "Let me state for the record that we support S. 941, the proposed Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Reform and Firearms Modernization Act of 2009, and its counterpart in the House of Representatives, H.R. 2296.

"It would establish graduated, uniform penalties for violations of federal firearms regulations by federal firearm licensees based on the seriousness of the violation. It would create an appeals process for federal firearm licensees accused of violations and for individuals denied a federal firearms license. It would set forth uniform and fair procedures to be followed in inspection, examination and investigation of federal firearm licensees."

Snyder stated for the record that, "the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms urges Congress to pass the proposed Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Reform and Firearms Modernization Act of 2009 and thereby move to afford some protection to United States federal firearm licensees."

Snyder said also that, "as much as we understand how important it is for the Committee to consider this matter soon, we hope that the Committee also would consider soon another much needed firearms legislative initiative, S. 845, the proposed Respecting States Rights and Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2009.

"This bill, if enacted into law, would allow citizens who have permits to carry concealed firearms from the State in which they reside to carry concealed firearms in another State that grants concealed carry permits, provided the individual complies with the laws of the State."

The author of S. 845 is Sen. John R. Thune of South Dakota. The proposal has over 20 cosponsors. Sen. Thune was named the CCRKBA Legislator of the Year for 2009.

CCRKBA GLAD ABOUT AMMO BAN REJECTION

"We're delighted to learn that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has rejected a petition to ban the use of lead in bullets and shotgun shells," John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, stated.

The EPA announcement came on the heels of a strong grassroots campaign by CCRKBA and other groups such as the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) against the petition by the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) calling for a ban on the production and distribution of traditional ammunition.

"We thought that the extremist CBD petition was part of an ongoing campaign by gun-grabbers to undermine the individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms and so stated," Snyder added. "We're glad EPA turned down CBD."

Congressman Doc Hastings of Washington State, CCRKBA's home state, blasted EPA and blasted it hard. Hastings is Ranking Member of the Natural Resources Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives.

"This potential ban on lead bullets is another massive power grab by the EPA and the latest example of the Obama administration's assault on rural America," stated the Evergreen State representative.

"Mandating non-lead bullets will greatly increase costs for hunters, sport shooters and fishermen and deal a devastating blow to the outdoor sportsmen and recreation industry during these difficult economic times," Hastings continued. "The EPA's job-killing policies are threatening the livelihood of millions of Americans across the country."

"This isn't the first time the Obama

administration has taken steps to ban lead sporting gear. In March 2009, the National Park Service announced a goal to 'eliminate the use of lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle in parks by the end of 2010.' The administration's strident stand on lead in parks makes the EPA's steps towards a nationwide, blanket ban on all lead bullets especially alarming."

Congressman Hastings commented further. "Even more outrageous," he declared, "is that Congress intentionally wrote the law to prohibit the EPA from regulating shells and cartridges. This agency is deliberately and knowingly acting beyond its legal authority. From banning bullets to imposing a backdoor national energy tax on carbon emissions, one has to seriously wonder if the EPA believes there is any limit to their ability to harm our economy or control the lives of American citizens."

Shortly after Hastings released his statement, and just hours after the Drudge Report reported that firearm-rights groups were battling against the proposed ban on traditional ammunition, the EPA rejected the proposed ban.

Steve Owens, EPA Assistant Administrator for the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, said that, "EPA today denied a petition submitted by several outside groups for the agency to implement a ban on the production and distribution of lead hunting ammunition. EPA reached this decision because the agency does not have the legal authority to regulate this type of product under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)—nor is the agency seeking such authority."

Although the announcement came

as welcome news to CCRKBA and other pro-gun rights groups, it came as "a swift and unexpected decision," according to The Crime Report, an internet publication. "The EPA had planned to solicit public responses to the petition for two months, but on Friday issued a statement rejecting a 100-page request from the CBD, the American Bird Conservancy, and three other groups for a ban on lead bullets, shot, and fishing sinkers. The agency is still considering what to do about sinkers."



POINT BLANK

*"Straight talk about what you can do to
preserve your right to keep and bear arms."*

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CCRKBA WARNS ABOUT WASHINGTON ACTIVITY

"The next few months, from now through early January, 2011, could be a most crucial time for the individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms," John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said recently in Washington, D.C.

"We're positive that the anti-gun proclivities of the current administration and its supporters in Congress have been kept in check for nearly two years by the outstanding grass roots activity of millions of individual Americans who have stood up for their rights and who have made their opinions known in no uncertain terms," he added. "This has been augmented by the tens of millions of legal purchases of firearms and ammunition in the United States, as well as Supreme Court decisions supportive of the individual rights interpretation of the Second Amendment.

"Now, however, we are confronted by the fact that, with the impending congressional changes in January, extremist gun control forces centered here well may figure that the next few months offer them possibly their last best chance for some time to ram into law some of their most outrageous ideas."

Snyder said "it's important to consider some realities. Remember, there is sitting in the Oval Office a president whose overall personal public record of animosity toward gun rights is more severely outrageous than that of any other candidate ever nominated by a major political party for the presidency.

"At the present moment, there probably is a greater number of

members in each house of Congress predisposed towards an increase in government anti-gun policy and activity than there has been in some time or than there likely is to be in the near future.

"Given this situation, which most probably will change in January, gun grabbers well may reason: 'Let's go for broke. We've got friends in Congress who soon will not be there and a president who most likely will sign anti-gun bills into law if Congress passes them. Soon we will not have this situation. Let's sock it to American gun owners. Let's shaft them now while we have the chance. If Congress passes and Obama signs the anti-gun legislation, it can't be repealed over an expected Obama veto unless both houses of Congress could vote in large enough numbers to overturn the veto. Now's maybe our last chance. Let's get them!'"

Snyder said that, "This is a real possibility. We must be prepared for it. CCRKBA Members and Supporters and gun owners generally can keep a sharp eye on their Representatives and Senators during this period of potential difficulty and remind them that, even if they expect to be leaving their current elective offices in January, they may at some future time once again be seeking elective office and the support of gun owners."

"It's important to keep our guard up," Snyder stated. "The gang in office right now is the same crowd that pushed a program that was going to designate Second Amendment supporters and other proponents of certain civil rights and advocates of certain bona fide

policy positions as somehow suspect as terrorist.. Remember the flap regarding a proposed Department of Homeland Security paper on this matter? It only was taken off the radar after a public storm about it resulted in at least a public disavowal of the paper."

There is still pending in Congress a proposal in the House (H.R. 2159) and in the Senate (S. 1317) that, if enacted into law, would empower the Attorney General of the United States to deny firearms or explosives to anyone he designates a terrorist. In other words, he'd be able to prohibit the sale of a firearm to anyone, claiming he suspects the proposed buyer of being a terrorist. It's a very dangerous proposal that could lead to a universal denial of gun rights.

Then there still are circulating around Washington proposals to reinstitute the Clinton era's failed "ban" of semiautomatic firearms, to make it permanent and even to extend it.

There also is pervasive anti-gun sentiment for legislation that would severely curtail the operation of gun shows or even eliminate altogether such activity.

The potential danger to American freedom of a "lame duck" session of Congress colluding with the radical Obama administration was considered by Congressman Tom Price (GA), Chairman of the Republican Study Committee, before Congress began its summer recess in August.

His resolution pledging opposition to holding a "lame duck" session of Congress after the elections was shot down on a near party line 236-163 vote.

CCRKBA EXTOLS CALIFORNIA FOR DUMPING OPEN CARRY BAN

"When the California legislature refused to ban open carry in the Golden State, a number of observers saw this as a possible turn-around from opposing to supporting gun rights in our nation's most populous state," John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said. "We certainly hope so, and will continue to work with Californians to ensure that is the case."

The action came just a few weeks before the annual Gun Rights Policy Conference, cosponsored by CCRKBA and the Second Amendment Foundation this year in San Francisco, California.

Assemblywoman Lori Saldana of San Diego had filed the bill to ban the open carry of unloaded handguns in public places. Ironically, Saldana "travels under the protection of an armed security detail," according to writer David Codrea.

The bill, AB1934, actually had been approved by the Assembly. After a tug-of-war in the Senate, it passed there. However, it had to win a concurrence vote back in the Assembly before it could be sent to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger for his approval or veto. The Assembly then voted to support a motion to delay the bill's consideration before the end of the session, thereby killing it.

Two other anti-gun bills died on the last day in August: AB1810, a long gun registration bill from Assemblyman Mike Feur, and AB2358, an ammunition vendor reporting bill from Assemblyman Kevin DeLeon.

"All three of these bills posed a

fundamental threat to the rights of gun owners," noted CRPA News and Updates. "And there was no room for compromise on any one of the bills...This is a huge win for gun owners."

The proposed ban on open carry galvanized law-abiding firearm owners and organizations into action against the bill.

California gun owners even started a group, Responsible Citizens of California (RCC), to try to defeat AB1934. It circulated a petition calling upon California elected officials to oppose the ban.

The petition noted that, "The open carry of holstered handguns has always been legal in California – it is an old right, not a new threat. In fact, 43 states allow the increasingly common 'open carry' of handguns in public, in most cases at age 18 without any permit – and only California forbids openly carried guns to be loaded in cities."

The group noted that, "The U.S. Supreme Court in *D.C. v. Heller* (2008) held that the right to 'bear arms' means 'the individual right to possess and carry weapons in case of confrontation.'"

It reminded officials that, "California greatly restricts concealed carry by granting sheriffs complete discretion in issuing permits and requiring the applicant to show 'cause' to exercise their right to discreetly bear arms; therefore open carry is most Californians' only viable option to exercise their right to bear arms."

RCC claimed that, "AB1934 attacks California property rights by banning open carry on private property – under California law, all private property is presumptively consid-

ered a 'public place.' As Justice Richard Aldrich of the California Appeals Court recently ruled in *People v. Strider* (2009), 'places of business and parking lots on private property, open to the general public, have consistently been held to be public places...(as is) the area outside a home in which a stranger is able to walk without challenge...The term public place generally means a location readily accessible to all those who wish to go there...The key consideration is whether a member of the public can access the place without challenge.' So anyone who owns a business, a home with a yard, or any other land, even a farm or ranch, should be concerned about AB1934 because absent physical barriers or guards, the business or land is considered a 'public place' under Saldana's bill."

The organization charged AB1934 "would bizarrely force citizens who currently open carry properly holstered handguns in public places to carry rifles or shotguns for their own personal protection. We agree with the U.S. Supreme Court which said in *D.C. v. Heller* (2008) that bearing a handgun has a key advantage over bearing long guns, i.e., that it can be held 'with one hand while the other hand dials the police.'"

The Californians called "on the legislature to reform and simplify California's gun laws to be more like those of the vast majority of states which uphold the right to bear arms by allowing both open and concealed carry, and issuing any permits which are needed to bear arms on a 'shall issue' basis."

CCRKBA BLASTS OBAMA GUN BAN

"The Obama administration's ban on over 100,000 U.S. made rifles from entrance into the United States civilian market is confirmation of President Barack Obama's animosity toward the civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms," John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, stated.

"According to *The Korea Times*, the Obama administration has blocked efforts by the South Korean government to sell over a hundred thousand M1 Garand and Carbine rifles into the United States market," reported David Kopel, Research Director of the Independence Institute. "These self-loading rifles were introduced in 1926 and 1941.

"As rifles, they are especially well-suited to community defense in an emergency, as in the cases of community defense following Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and Hurricane Andrew in 1992. Along with AR-15

type rifles, the M1 rifles are the quintessential firearms of responsible citizenship, precisely the type of firearms which civic responsibility organizations such as the Appleseed Project teach people how to use."

A South Korean official reportedly said that, "The U.S. insisted that imports of the aging rifles could cause problems such as firearms accidents. It was also worried the weapons could be smuggled to terrorists, gangs or other people with bad intentions." Kopel retorted, "The risk that the South Korean surplus guns might fall into the hands of gangsters or other bad people is exactly the same as with the sale of any other retail firearm in the United States," he wrote. "Notably, neither the M1 Garand nor the M1 carbine are concealable, and the M1 Garand is long, heavy and bulky. Accordingly, the criminal utility of such guns is relatively low."

"Legally, it is indisputable that the

guns are importable. Being over 50 years old, the rifles are automatically 'Curios and Relics' according to federal law. 27 CFR section 478.11. Accordingly, they are by statutory definition importable. 18 USC section 925 (e)(1). Notwithstanding the law, the Obama administration has the ability to pressure the South Korean government to block the sale of the guns."

"Obama is like the proverbial leopard that hasn't changed his spots," said Snyder. "Although there have been some attempts on the part of some Obama supporters to set forth the idea that, 'Obama is not so bad on gun rights,' the very opposite in reality is the case. As this development demonstrates, Obama will do anything he thinks he can get away with to subvert gun owners' rights. Obama and the Obama gang mean bad news for law-abiding American firearm owners and gun rights defenders."

CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

This month's CAP is short and sweet. In the commercial real estate business, three basic rules govern success: location, location, location.

In elections, it's TURN-OUT, TURN-OUT, TURN-OUT!

Needless to say, the outcome of the 2 November mid-term elections will be critical in protecting the rights of gun owners, at least as far as attacks on the right to keep and bear arms are concerned. Many states are promoting mail-in ballots as a convenient way of fulfilling this critical duty of citizenship. That means absentee ballots will be going in the mail by mid-October, and even earlier for absentee military voters.

Whether you vote by mail-in ballot or by the traditional method of going to your local polling place on November 2nd, be sure to exercise that fundamental right -- and responsibility -- of citizenship. Remind your family members and friends to vote.

In 2008 candidate Obama promised "change" if he was elected. He has certainly kept that campaign promise. Between President Barack Obama, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, the one thing we have all seen over the past two years is change. This is YOUR OPPORTUNITY to bring that change to a screeching halt!

We'll see you at the polls!

GEORGIA MINISTER NAMED CCRKBA RIGHTS DEFENDER

CCRKBA this month names Rev. Jonathan Wilkins, minister of the Baptist Tabernacle of Thomaston, Georgia as the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month.

John M. Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, nominated the clergyman for the award.

"Rev. Wilkins," said Snyder, "has stood up in a most forthright, determined and articulate manner for the individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms. He has argued explicitly and convincingly that there is an intrinsic connection between the right of self-defense and traditional religious values. He has done this and is doing this in a challenge to an anti-gun state law. He truly deserves to receive the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Award."

Rev. Wilkins and GeorgiaCarry.org currently are involved in an effort to allow law-abiding citizens in Georgia who are licensed to carry guns into churches.

The issue arose earlier this year when the state legislature enacted and the governor signed into law a prohibition on guns and churches.

Rev. Wilkins wants to arm himself while working alone at the church and during services "for the protection of his flock, his family and himself," according to a lawsuit filed for the minister and GeorgiaCarry.org by attorney John Monroe.

The lawsuit was filed against the state in July in Upson County Superior Court and then later moved to the U.S. District Court in Macon. In August, U.S. District Judge C. Ashley Royal set deadlines for each

side in the lawsuit to submit written arguments on which he will base his decision.

Rev. Wilkins, "frequently the only occupant of the building while working in his office in the church, would also like to keep a firearm there for self-defense," reports Bob Allen, a senior writer for Associated Baptist Press.

In a church notice, the Baptist Tabernacle proclaims that, "One of the sacred rights given to man by Almighty God is the right of self-defense. In March of 2009, after the shooting of Pastor Winters in Maryville, Illinois while preaching at church, we resolved to always have a responsible and trained individual armed for protective purposes. However we were astonished that state law considers this a 'criminal' act. As citizens of the state we were ashamed that our state:

- Forbids our sacred right to carry weapons to defend our families from lawless renegades while at church. Especially in light of the recent trend of church shootings.

- Serves notice to criminals that we are unarmed leaving us defenseless and vulnerable to attack.

- Rends from us our corporate rights. As a body of believers, on our own property, it should be our decision and not the state's as to whether we will allow armed people on that property, and

- Discriminates against the church by criminalizing conduct that is otherwise permitted state-wide.

"We sought resolution of this deplorable situation by legislative means which proved unsuccessful; we are therefore compelled to appeal to the process of litigation. May God

vindicate our cause!"

Rev. Wilkins noted that critics ask why anyone would want to have a gun at church. "Folks are genuinely astonished that a pastor and his congregation would want to exercise such a right," he wrote.

"Theologically," he continued, "the critic objects by echoing the words of Christ in Matthew 5, 'blessed are the peacemakers.'

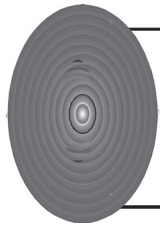
"And yet Christ told us in Luke 11:21 the way to maintain peace was to arm oneself. 'When a strong man armed kept his palace, his goods are in peace.' It is the armed man who deters those who wish to disturb the peace."

"On another occasion, the Lord stopped in the middle of a sermon and said to his congregation, 'he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one.'"

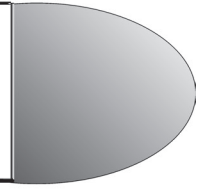
Rev. Wilkins stated also that, "If the Second Amendment is indeed 'the law of the land,' then neither Georgia nor the federal government has any right 'infringing' upon my right to 'bear arms,' even in church.

"Practically, this is a self-defense issue. People believe the illusion that churches are somehow 'safety zones' where bad people will 'supernaturally' respect a prohibition of guns in churches. But in 2007 Bob Unruh published an article titled 'Church Shootings in the Rise in U.S.' in which he listed 10 church shootings since 1999. After 2007, I have noted six additional churches that have fallen prey to gun violence."

Rev. Wilkins concluded that, "Theologically, historically, legally and in all practicality the church should be free to allow its members the right to bear arms."



QUICK SHOTS



Arizona's new gun law authorizing constitutional carry, or the carrying of a concealed firearm by a law-abiding citizen without a permit, "spurs sales," according to ABC 15 of Phoenix, Arizona. "Walk into Scottsdale Gun Club on any given night, and you'll find a bustling business," reported Steve Irvin. "Target shooters pack the climate-controlled indoor shooting range, and firearms of every variety line the display counters and the walls. In fact, since Arizona eased restrictions on concealing and carrying firearms, a number of firearms dealers report sales are on the rise. 'I think it's a heightened awareness in general of firearm laws and the rights and privileges we have here in Arizona,' said Katie Perrine of SGC. While the club didn't provide exact numbers, it does attribute the increase directly to the new law. Perrine said sales began to increase almost after the new law took effect."



Last month in Reading, Pennsylvania, businessman Don Jose Abreu fired at "would-be robbers" and stopped them, reported NBCPhiladelphia.com. "When two men came into Don Jose's Notary and Multiservice in Reading with guns waving," Teresa Masterson related, "Abreu was ready with his gun loaded and fired the first shot. The men ran away. Now police are saying that Abreu may have stopped a rash of robberies in Reading over the past week. Joel Salame, 30, and Dionico Torres, 24, were arrested after allegedly fleeing Abreu's notary shop

Monday. Though Salame and Torres are only charged with one robbery, police expect to charge the two men with at least eight robberies, most of which occurred from August 24 to August 31 in Reading. Abreu was tipped off that the men were surveying his business in order to rob it when they walked in Friday wearing glasses with no lenses, wigs and matching uniforms, he told the *Reading Eagle*. On Monday the two men came back to the shop. One stayed outside while the other entered the store through two unlocked doors and pointed a handgun at Abreu. Abreu fired his .38-caliber revolver at the man but missed, hitting the wall. Witnesses pointed to where the men ran and police arrested Salame and Torres soon after."



Chicago's "restrictive gun laws are rarely enforced," according to *The New York Times*. "Mayor Richard M. Daley has long insisted that the city's restrictive gun laws—including the handgun ban that was essentially nullified recently by the United States Supreme Court—have been a key crime-fighting tool," note writers Mike Dumke and Dan Mihalopoulos. "But," they continue, "court records show that relatively few people were convicted of violating the laws, and even top city officials have questioned how useful they are in deterring crime...Gun owners in Chicago are required to register their weapons with the police department, to acquire a state identification card and to keep their guns in their home. Starting in 1982, Chicago also pro-

hibited the registration of handguns, but two years ago, opponents of the ordinance filed suit in federal court, asserting that the ban infringed on their right to defend themselves. The Supreme Court ruled in June that cities and states could not pass laws that superseded the right to bear arms guaranteed in the Second Amendment to the Constitution."



The State of Florida issued 176,555 new concealed carry firearm permits between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010, "up from 25,352 new licenses 10 years earlier," reported Fred Hiers of Ocala.com. "The number of permit applications was so large that the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services struggled to process them within 90 days as required by law," he added. "Ken Wilkinson of the Department of Agriculture said the agency had a two-month backlog just to scan the application documents into their computers, much less approve or deny the requests."



"The smuggling of weapons of all calibers has risen as the result of their import ban and also prompts citizens to buy guns illegally to protect against the latest nationwide crime spree," reported *Dominica Today* from Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. "The Weapons Importers Association made the denunciation and cited (the) arrest of four Customs officials in Santiago on conspiracy to smuggle guns."

4

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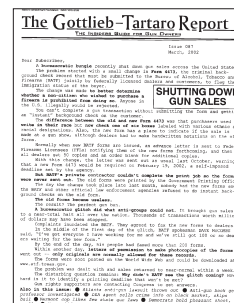
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