

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIP TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE

May 24, 2016



Dear Members of Congress:

I write on behalf of the National Law Enforcement Partnership to Prevent Gun Violence (the Partnership) to share our strong opposition to the national concealed carry reciprocity proposals currently proposed or being considered in a number of amendments and bills in Congress, including H.R. 986 and S. 498.



As we have previously stated, these national concealed carry reciprocity proposals would severely undermine state concealed carry licensing systems by allowing out of state visitors to carry concealed firearms even if those visitors have not met – or cannot meet – the standards for carrying a concealed weapon in the state they are visiting.



The current proposals would preempt state concealed carry laws, which vary widely. Not all require background checks or safety training, for instance. States and localities should have the right to legislate concealed carry laws that best fit the needs of their communities.



National concealed carry reciprocity as currently proposed and referenced above could create potentially life-threatening situations for law enforcement officers and others. During traffic stops, it would be nearly impossible for police to verify the validity of nearly 50 different carry permits, forcing officers to make split-second decisions for their own safety in an already dangerous situation.



Lastly and very importantly, we strongly oppose the provision in H.R. 986 that makes law enforcement agencies and officers civilly liable for investigative stops and detentions of armed subjects, which may be necessary and appropriate for investigative and officer safety purposes.



POLICE EXECUTIVE
RESEARCH FORUM

We respectfully urge every member of Congress to respect state laws and protect and support our nation's police officers and the citizens they serve by opposing these national concealed-carry reciprocity proposals.



Sincerely,

Chief Jim Johnson, Baltimore County, MD
Chair, National Law Enforcement Partnership to Prevent Gun Violence

The Partnership is an alliance of the nation's law enforcement leadership organizations concerned about the unacceptable level of gun violence in the United States. Our members include the Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association (HAPCOA); International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA); International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP); Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCC); National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives (NAWLEE); National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE); Police Executive Research Forum (PERF); and the Police Foundation (PF).

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