

Deputy Allen and Mary Polkowski

ULTIMATE Protection Academy and Indoor Tactical Training Range

35965 Groesbeck Hwy.

Clinton Twp., MI 48035

586-322-2477

May 30, 2017

A letter to Judiciary Committee:

House Bills 4416-19

Honorable Chairman and State Representative Jim Runestad, District 44:

As Law Enforcement firearm trainers, gun rights activists and community volunteer safety program coordinators, NRA Life Members with recognition of National Recognition of NRA Top Membership Recruiters; we need to inform the committee some aspects that have not been clearly discussed in the hearings to date:

1. The current permit system as enacted in Public Act 381 should be amended to include, but not limited to, pistol safety training with annual qualifications similar to law enforcement required firearm qualification for handguns under the direction M.C.O.L.E.S., for both CPL Permit holders and CPL pistol safety instructors at an approved Michigan State Police Facilities. Current CPL holders and instructors only need to qualify with no need to complete any additional training unless the participant cannot pass; then remedial training with requalification.
2. The "Coat Tax" of permit fees charged by the State should be reduced or eliminated to reflect the substantial reduction of state/government/fingerprinting services that has occurred since July 1, 2001.
3. Elimination of the Michigan State Police Form "Pistol Safety Record" (RI-060) and all state handgun registration of firearms 26 inches in length or less, which has no factual evidence of reducing crime with firearms in itself.
4. Note that Law Enforcement organizations have supported the original CPL Permit system seventeen years ago as it had a training component. However,

it is clear that there exists a complacency in pistol safety training by instructors so prevalent that necessaries that these bills should provide for governmental oversight and enforcement that all CPL Pistol Safety Instructors meeting at least the minimum requirements as set forth in Public Act 381.

5. Using a firearm for protection, as with any defensive tactic, requires knowledge and training when preparing for violent encounters with the “Applied Science” of human heart rate/adrenaline increase, physiological and psychosocial changes that inhibit quick/accurate/effective reaction with accuracy. Unless a Constitutional Carry Advocate trains daily with SWAT, Navy Seals, Marine Recon or the Army Rangers, simulation of what the average gun enthusiast’s experiences during an average day out at the range is far from the reality as anyone could imagine. That is why at least an annual qualification is suggested because any type of test where a passing score is necessary will induce at least the minimum of heart rate increase while demonstrating minimum competency in firearm skills that will become apparent.

Thank you committee members for our most recent testimony.

Deputy Allen and Mary Polkowski

Matt Carnegie

From: Linda Cook MacDonald <linda_cookmacd@inbox.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 30, 2017 11:48 AM
To: Matt Carnegie
Subject: HB 4416-4419 Opposed

Importance: High

Dear Chairman Runestad, Rep, Greimel, and committee members:

This email message is another appeal to all of you to oppose House Bills 4416-4419.

None of these bills represent any improvement in the health, safety and well-being of Michigan residents, despite claims that they will.

Simply put: they represent the corporate gun lobby agenda of increasing the profits of gun dealers and manufacturers at the cost of human life in all our communities.

At the time when a majority of people, gun owners included, are appealing for legislation that is appropriate to the lethal nature of firearms, this legislature among others is considering passing legislation that turns its back on the statutory history of our state. No wonder the corporate gun lobby is taking the position of "amending" current legislation from the 1920's and 30's to push their position of guns for everyone and a gun in every place, rather than crafting new legislation that says plainly what is meant by the legislation and its long term intent.

Surely our ancestors were not "silly" to enact laws that were intended to slow the process of obtaining firearms in order to make sure those who did purchase and use firearms could do so responsibly. Current legislation has already weakened the care taken by earlier legislatures. Imagine what they would say to the notion that someone could have a concealed weapon without a permit, without training, and be a spouse abuser, stalker, child abuser, batterer, and still purchase a weapon? Would they not feel appalled? When they enacted legislation the nation was not flooded with weapons nor were there 32,000 people dying each year from guns; 2/3rds of those suicides.

We are talking here about concealed weapons, pistols and small arms, and not just assault style weapons - but weapons designed to be concealed and carried without anyone knowing, including public safety officers. Even a re-write of language regarding a person informing an officer they have a weapon will not change the nature of the law itself, which is to make all aspects of living in Michigan feel more dangerous as well as become more dangerous over time.

When our current laws were written manufacturers were selling rifles for hunting. Gone indeed are all the arguments about hunting and keeping hunters happy. Now it is purely about everyone being able to purchase and carry a gun if they desire.

But the real question is this: Should everyone be allowed to purchase and carry firearms? The legislation being considered seems to say "Yes". And yet, all of us know that there are people we know, perhaps in our own families, who should never have the option of owning or carrying a weapon, concealed or otherwise.

This opinion has nothing to do with Second Amendment rights and everything to do with the rights of others to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness - guarantees that are stated first in the constitution.

No one proposes to limit the Second Amendment right to own a firearm. But no right is absolute with no restrictions. Even Justice Scalia said the same in his opinion that made bearing arms an individual rather than a collective matter. It is reasonable that people be made responsible for their decision to buy and carry a weapon. This proposed legislation does not even pretend to do that.

A vote in favor of these bills tells the majority of Michigan residents opposed to these pieces of legislation that their desire for responsible firearm ownership is not necessary or even warranted. Surely none of you believe that.

Yours truly,

**Rev. Linda C MacDonald
24884 Front Avenue
Mattawan, MI 49071
269-808-3329**

Matt Carnagie

From: House Clerk
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 12:18 PM
To: Matt Carnagie
Subject: FW: HB 4416 testimony: Please read into the record

From: Susan Callahan [mailto:sfcallahan05@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 9:02 AM
To: House Clerk <HouseClerk@house.mi.gov>
Subject: HB 4416 testimony: Please read into the record

My name is Susan Callahan, and I am a member of Battle Creek Voices of Peace, an affiliate of the Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence. I am strongly opposed to HB 4416. This ill-conceived piece of legislation is designed to remove the sensible requirement that gun owners be licensed and trained before carrying a concealed, loaded handgun in public. For most of American history, no state recognized a right to carry a firearm without a license, and the vast majority of Michigan citizens continue to support that position. My father was a hunter and also at one time served in the FBI. He spoke often of the training and the responsibilities that went with possessing a weapon. When our home was burglarized and his deer rifle was stolen, one of the first things he said was, "Thank goodness I no longer had a side arm in the house for them to find." For him, only criminals had unlicensed firearms. During my lifetime, I have seen the number of licensed and unlicensed guns in our country skyrocket. But more guns have not meant more safety. The United States now leads Western nations in the number of per capita gun deaths. HB 4416 would take our state in the wrong direction by moving toward a condition that would increase the potential for gun violence. Do not let a handful of extremists

override a policy that provides a necessary safeguard for our men, women, and children in public spaces.

Matt Carnagie

From: House Clerk
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Matt Carnagie
Subject: FW: No loaded hand guns without background check & safety training!

-----Original Message-----

From: artziffland@juno.com [mailto:artziffland@juno.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 9:57 PM
To: House Clerk <HouseClerk@house.mi.gov>
Subject: No loaded hand guns without background check & safety training!

Subject: NO loaded handguns without background check and safety training!
To: clerk@house.mi.gov

Dear Clerk,

"Permit-less carry" means anyone with a history of domestic violence, child abuse, assault, substance abuse, etc, could carry a loaded handgun in any public place, without any background check or safety training!

This is the opposite of public health and public safety! I am stunned that any lawmakers would support something so dangerous to the welfare of their constituents!

Please pass on my urgent message to House Judiciary Committee members to Vote NO on HB 4416.

Sincerely and with great concern,

K.R. Artz-iffland
425 Inkster Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

269-254-7795

Matt Carnagie

From: House Clerk
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Matt Carnagie
Subject: FW: Permitless concealed weapons

From: Dave Middleton [mailto:dlmiddle01@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 9:21 PM
To: House Clerk <HouseClerk@house.mi.gov>
Subject: Permitless concealed weapons

Dear Clerk,

"Permit-less carry" means anyone with a history of domestic violence, child abuse, assault, substance abuse, etc, could carry a loaded handgun in any public place, without any background check or safety training!

This is the opposite of public health and public safety! I am stunned that any lawmakers would support something so dangerous to the welfare of their constituents!

Please pass on my urgent message to House Judiciary Committee members to Vote NO on HB 4416 this afternoon.

Most sincerely,

Virginia Middleton

Matt Carnagie

From: House Clerk
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Matt Carnagie
Subject: FW: HB 4416

From: RSM User [mailto:rsm071015@outlook.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 8:33 PM
To: House Clerk <HouseClerk@house.mi.gov>
Subject: HB 4416

I strongly oppose House Bill 4416 which would allow individuals to carry a hidden, loaded hand gun with no license, background check or safety training. This legislation jeopardizes the life and safety of every person in Michigan and should be soundly defeated. Thank you. Anne Fleming, RSM

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Matt Carnagie

From: House Clerk
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Matt Carnagie
Subject: FW: Bill 4416

From: Sharon Wedig [mailto:SWedig@mercywmw.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 8:24 PM
To: House Clerk <HouseClerk@house.mi.gov>
Subject: Bill 4416

Dear Michigan House Judiciary Committee,

I oppose Bill #4416. I do not support individuals carrying a gun with no license or background check and safety training. I know of too many incidents that have hurt many innocent people.

Thank you

Mary Catherine Wedig

Matt Carnagie

From: House Clerk
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 12:21 PM
To: Matt Carnagie
Subject: FW: HB4416

From: klmdeacon@comcast.net [mailto:klmdeacon@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 4:59 PM
To: House Clerk <HouseClerk@house.mi.gov>
Subject: HB4416

Vote no on house bill HB4416

Sent from Windows Mail

It is too dangerous to allow open carry of guns without background checks and other safety measures. Vote no on house bill HB4416.

Karen McDonald
89925 Shorelane Drive
Lawton, Michigan 49065

Matt Carnagie

From: House Clerk
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 12:22 PM
To: Matt Carnagie
Subject: FW: HB4416

From: Tomkbart@aol.com [mailto:Tomkbart@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 2:08 PM
To: House Clerk <HouseClerk@house.mi.gov>
Subject: HB4416

Dear members of the Michigan House Judiciary Committee,

I was a police officer from 1970 to 1984 at the Michigan State University Police Department. At the time, I was also a sworn member of the Ingham County Sheriff's Department. I attended police academy at the Mid Michigan Police Academy at Lansing Community College for 10 weeks in 1970. During that time I was extensively trained in the use of firearms.

I am OPPOSED to HB 4416 for the following reasons:

1. I was taught that a slug can travel 1/2 mile to a mile. We needed to be aware of backdrop anytime a firearm might be used. A untrained gun user wouldn't be aware of this.
2. I was taught the awesome responsibility of carrying the means of deadly force on my person at all times, something an untrained gun user might not think about.
 - a. Never point a gun at anything you don't mean to shoot, even in jest.
 - b. An unsecured gun in a car or unholstered can be dangerous. A gun can accidentally be discharged if dropped or the safety is off or in a pocket. An unsecured gun can be handled by a youngster (if it is in a glove box), under a seat of a car, or in a piece of clothing) with deadly and unintended consequences.
3. The State of Michigan can't take a human life for any reason. Therefore, our officers were taught that ONLY in the defense of ones own life or the life of a citizen or when a CONFIRMED felony crime of violence against another had occurred and the felon's continued freedom could result in a further threat of violence against another, was the use of deadly force ever justified. A normal citizen wouldn't have the necessary knowledge of the law or experience to be able to determine whether a gun could or should be used during a perceived threat or otherwise.
4. Allowing a person to possess a gun that has not been trained in the safe lawful use of it, is a hazard to public health, for some of the reasons earlier mentioned.
5. This law would make it VERY DANGEROUS for police officers to do their jobs!
 - a. Imagine officers responding to a fight in progress, a bar fight, or any public disturbance where in the past the inclusion of a deadly weapon would have been a rarity, and now could be the norm.
 - b. There will be more instances of improper police shootings, as officers to protect themselves will be more liable to shoot someone rather than to wait the extra moment as has often been the case, to ascertain for sure that a suspect in not armed.
 - c. There will be less traffic enforcement. Why take a chance of stopping a vehicle where the incidence of there being a gun inside will be so much greater? Also, a drunken driver who is armed will become more of a threat to himself and to others. Wouldn't it be a tragedy if a drunken driver stupidly started brandishing a weapon and was killed by an

officer just because his only crime initially was being a drunk driver? And what of the officer? Most officers don't want to become killers in their enforcement of the law even if a shooting may be "justified". Many officers involved in shootings, even though justified, have become victims of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). This law would add an undue burden to an already stressful job!

For these reasons and many more, ***this bill should not become law!***

As an aside, thirty years later I do not have a permit to carry even though as ex law enforcement I could get one, primarily because there is ***too much potential of unintended consequences of possessing a gun "on the streets"***, and because using "common sense", (like staying away from high crime areas after dark) physically protects me ***more*** than carrying a gun does!

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Thomas Bartley
1527 River Terrace Drive
(Meridian Twp) East Lansing, MI, 48823
517-332-7321

Matt Carnagie

From: House Clerk
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 12:23 PM
To: Matt Carnagie
Subject: FW: Opposition to HB 4416

From: Monica Goble [mailto:monicagoble@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 12:03 PM
To: House Clerk <HouseClerk@house.mi.gov>
Subject: Opposition to HB 4416

Dear Linda,

I am not able to be there today but would like to express my strong opposition to HB 4416.

As a health-care provider dedicated to saving lives, why would we want people to carrying a hidden, loaded handgun in Michigan with no license or background check?

- **Can we agree that public places should be safe environments, free from gun violence?**
- **Can we agree that law enforcement should be able to identify felons and dangerous domestic abusers illegally carrying guns in public?**
- **Can we protect, not endanger, our children against people carrying hidden handguns in public?**
- **Can we agree to decrease, not increase, the chances of suicide, murder and accidental shootings?**
- **Don't we want to decrease, not increase, the chances of disagreements escalating into shootouts - in bars, at sporting events, and in traffic?**

Please consider on a broader scale why this type of legislation only benefits the gun industry, while boosting our suicide, murder and accidental shooting rates.

Thank you for your consideration,

Monica Goble

Monica Martin Goble MD

Pediatrician

1200 E. Michigan Avenue, Ste 715

Lansing, MI 48912

Matt Carnagie

From: House Clerk
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 12:23 PM
To: Matt Carnagie
Subject: FW: Permitless Carry (HB 4416) - Please, please make sure this bill doesn't get out of committee

From: Terrie Halbert [mailto:boicourts2@att.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 2:02 PM
To: House Clerk <HouseClerk@house.mi.gov>
Subject: Permitless Carry (HB 4416) - Please, please make sure this bill doesn't get out of committee

My name is Terrie Halbert. I live at 5585 Wing Lake Road, Bloomfield Township, MI 48301. I don't miss voting in any election.

Remember when so many people responded to the 9/11 tragedy with, "I don't feel safe anymore?" That's the way I feel about anyone in Michigan purchasing and carrying a pistol--concealed, no less. How can I feel safe, if there are no background checks? How can I feel safe about taking my grandchildren to a mall, or baseball game, or summer camp?

Victims are rarely, if ever, the person who owns a gun. Please prevent tragedies and travesties. Don't let this bill get out of committee. Save Michigianians from being shot, or from funerals and mourning.

Thanks very much,

Terrie Halbert

Matt Carnegie

From: Carleen Maly <cmaly@adrianrealiteracy.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 4:42 PM
To: Matt Carnegie
Subject: HB4416

PLEASE VOTE NO ON MICHIGAN HOUSE BILL 4416. IT IS SENSELESS.
Carleen Maly, Adrian Michigan 49221