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Press Release

HB 6200 - Show Your Papers dead in Judiciary

Connecticut Carry celebrates defeat of anti-rights bill, issues warning

Hartford CT, April 8, 2017: With the passing of the Joint Favorable deadline, the last date where legislative committees could vote bills out of committee, passing on April 7th, Connecticut Carry chalks up some wins. At the same time, we remind legislators and other politicians that we are ever vigilant and steadfast in our support for our right to armed self-defense.

By far, the most worrisome bill in this session has been the 'Show your Papers' bill that seeks to eliminate existing fourth amendment protection against illegal search seizure as affirmed in the Terry v Ohio and Hiibel v Nevada cases. Despite outright lies by media and politicians alike, this was not a bill that allowed police to ask for permits from people openly carrying firearms, nor was it a bill that aimed to keep police from being hindered when investigating a complaint against someone with a firearm.

The law is clear: if you are not reasonably suspected of breaking the law, you cannot be detained and searched. HB 6200 and HB 6001 sought to eliminate that lawful protection.

Therefore, the shameful oath breakers who sponsored these bills and likewise, the co-sponsors, will be called out and targeted under our 'Never Forgive, Never Forget – Vote them out' campaign. These legislators are unfit for office in Connecticut, and we will see to it that everyone knows them and knows why. It is important to remember that we currently have more legislators in office (out of 184) that either were not in office, or voted against the 2013 Gun Ban (PA 13-3) than voted for it – 104 to 80.

We are gaining ground every session and every election and these 13 traitors must be next to lose their office:

Rep. Caroline Simmons, 144th Dist.

Rep. William Tong, 147th Dist.

Rep. Daniel J. Fox, 148th Dist.

Rep. Joseph P. Gresko, 121st Dist.

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Rep. Steven J. Stafstrom, 129th Dist.

Rep. Josh Elliott, 88th Dist.

Sen. Timothy D. Larson, 3rd Dist.

Sen. Marilyn V. Moore, 22nd Dist.

Rep. Patricia Billie Miller, 145th Dist.

Rep. Cristin McCarthy Vahey, 133rd Dist.

Rep. John K. Hampton, 16th Dist.

Sen. Martin M. Looney, 11th Dist.

Rep. Mitch Bolinsky, 106th Dist.

Politicians cannot hold office in the Constitution State when they actively and proudly campaign against the Bill of Rights.

"Never Forgive, Never Forget, Vote them out. We are very proud of our legislative work and the extraordinary work performed by our Legislative Director Matt Tyszka this session. Now we will start the process of preparing our members to target the 13 traitor politicians for the next election in 2018." – Rich Burgess, President, Connecticut Carry

"By killing HB 6200, the Judiciary Committee has done the right thing for all citizens of Connecticut. The present language of the statute is the best protection against profiling for all people when exercising any of their rights. The law is clear in that citizens cannot be stopped or detained unless police have a reasonable suspicion of criminal activity. The law also assists police officers in making it clear under what circumstances they may accost any person in public, not just firearms owners, as clearly defined by the United States Supreme Court over the past 49 years. Society's problems do not arise from lawful firearms owners who overwhelmingly support law enforcement efforts to detect and suppress crime. The legislature would make the best use of their time and effort in the future by addressing the effects of true, violent criminals." – Matt Tyszka, Director of Legislative Affairs, Connecticut Carry