

Committee on Insurance and Real Estate
Public Hearings
2013 March 19

Generally when you review legislation you see a piece of work that is an attempt, either good or bad, to solve a problem that exists in society. H.B. 6656 is a piece of legislation that does not address an existing problem.

Individuals who are in unlawful possession of a firearm perpetrate the vast majority of the violence involving firearms in this state. Add to that, insurance policies do not cover wantonly unlawful acts or those that are perpetrated after property is stolen from the rightful owner, and you begin to ask what problem this piece of legislation addresses.

One only need look at the literature of the Brady Campaign to learn that this has long been posed as a means to deter firearms ownership by creating a financial barrier. This is an exercise in effrontery by those that will claim to support the exercise of a right.

Not only does this bill not address a problem, it creates new problems. The language of the raised bill would make it illegal for those between the ages of 16 and 18 to hunt as they do now, and if not entirely outlawing hunting by Junior Hunting Permit licensees it definitely creates a lot of legal ambiguity. This bill would single-handedly prevent the achievement of scouting marksmanship badges and hamper the ability to train for Olympic Rifle, Pistol, and Shotgun sports.

In addition to the problems with the language in the bill currently, this is a product which simply does not exist, therefore compliance with this legislation is impossible for any but the extremely rich.

I urge you to kill S.B. 6656

Best regards,
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