



Judiciary Committee Testimony, March 20, 2015

My name is Brian Anderson. I am a legislative representative for Council 4 AFSCME, a union of 32,000 public and private employees.

Council 4 and its three Correction Employee Local's 391, 387 and 1565 request that the Judiciary Committee pass, with amendment, **H.B. 7028 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION, ACCESS TO THE FIREARMS DATABASE BY PAROLE OFFICERS, AND PRESENTATION OF A CARRY PERMIT.**

The intent of this bill is to allow state parole officers access to the state's firearms data base. Giving parole officers access to the state firearm data base will help ensure their safety, and that of parolees and the public. It allows for more efficient monitoring of parolees and the households in which reside.

State parole officers are highly trained law enforcement officers with arrest powers. These officers are already cleared to use the federal COLLECT data base. This is a high security clearance data base. Therefore, allowing them access to the state's data base poses no security or confidentiality problem. It simply allows them to do their jobs better.

We ask that you amend the bill to include the language suggested by the Department of Corrections legal staff. The DOC language would be inserted in Section 28-28(d) (1) with that of " employees of the US Probation Office..."

**authorized Department of Correction Parole Officers within the Division of Parole and Community Services acting in the performance of their official duties to supervise parolees**

Please let us know if we can provide further information. Thank you for your consideration.