

William D. Curlew
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TO: The Public Safety and Security Committee

RE: Support **with conditions** for [S.B. No. 20](#) AN ACT CONCERNING CARRYING A FIREARM WHILE INTOXICATED OR UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL.

I am writing to express my support for SB20, which I understand proposes to lower the alcohol in blood ratio from .100 to .080 to be able to charge persons who carry a firearm under the influence of alcohol.

This bill is consistent with the current statutes on DUI for the operation of a vehicle, and I believe if you are considered too drunk to drive, you should also not be carrying a firearm on your person.

I would however like to encourage you to consider the case where:

- A person realizes he/she may be impaired, and has no place to safely secure his/her firearm.
- Said person dis-arms him/herself, and secures the firearm out of reach of the driver and passengers of the vehicle. Perhaps the firearm should also be unloaded, but I don't want to encourage people who may be impaired to perform the relatively complex handling of a firearm required to unload it.

In this case I would submit that just the presence of the firearm secured in the vehicle should not be grounds for an impaired carry charge over and above the DUI driving stop.

Respectfully,

William D. Curlew