

Hobart, Jamie

From: Tom Campbell <tcampbell832@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2016 5:02 PM
To: pstestimony
Subject: HB 5408 & SB 20

My father was shot to death 50 years ago last Christmas. The killer was from the neighborhood with no particular connection to dad or our family. Dad left a widow and 7 children aged 2 to 20. Think about the emotional, psychological and financial problems we have faced ever since.

Don't dare offer condolences, prayers or thoughts. Do something constructive to address the overall problem of gun violence. Give our protectors - the police - the undisputed power to request a permit when someone is openly carrying lethal weapons: guns. Move HB 5408 to the floor for a vote.

As it now stands, a cop is only entitled to ask to see the permit if he suspects a crime has been or is being committed. That's ridiculous but when I raised this point of view I was given an even more ridiculous response: the cop could ask if he suspected the carrier did not have a permit on his or her person. Rather Kafkaesque, don't you think?

Like the First Amendment, the Second Amendment does not give unlimited rights. In the Heller case, the late Justice Antonin said this in acknowledging its limits: "It is not a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose."

I also support SB 20, AAC Carrying a Permit While Intoxicated or Under the Influence of Alcohol. Again, this is simple common sense. It brings the threshold for intoxication in line with that of driving while intoxicated. I am unaware of any rational person who supports carrying a gun, or hunting while intoxicated. The reasons why doing so is a bad idea are simply too obvious to belabor.

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