

March 9th, 2016

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

RE: H 3025 Right to Carry

I am writing you to address some concerns which my wife and I have regarding the above referenced legislation and to voice our strong support of its opposition from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) and the South Carolina Sheriffs Association (SCSA).

Our current laws do not infringe upon the protected Second Amendment right of our law abiding citizens to keep and bear arms. The current law does however support the requirement for the training of our citizens who wish to carry a concealed handgun for personal protection.

Without this critical training requirement we will expose our citizens to potentially serious financial and long term legal consequences for violations of our current laws.

Ignorance of the law is no excuse and certainly not a defense for violating current firearms laws. The enactment of H 3025 into law will remove the requirement for this essential training.

As a matter of public safety we require our citizens to demonstrate their knowledge and ability to safely operate a motor vehicle before they are issued a permit. We require proper training of our law enforcement officers, private security guards and our military personnel before they are allowed to carry firearms openly or concealed. Why then would we not require the same of our private citizens.

My wife and I are members of the NRA and valid holders of SC concealed carry permits. The process for obtaining our permits was simple and straight forward. Most importantly though it provided us with the essential knowledge needed of South Carolina Firearms Law.

We strongly encourage you to carefully review H 3025 and the potential legal and long term financial dangers it will expose our citizens to if enacted into law. In the interest of public safety we urge you to oppose its passage. Our common goal should be working together to put the safety and protection of our citizens first. Passage of H 3025 into law will not accomplish this goal.

Respectfully


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