

From: Bob Freeman
Sent: 1/2/2016 10:55:14 AM
To: Haley, Nikki
Cc:
Subject: THAT'S NO LOOPHOLE--THAT'S MY RIGHTS!

Dear Governor Haley:

THAT'S NO "LOOPHOLE"—YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT MY RIGHTS!

I thought that South Carolina senators and congressmen were smarter than the "Average Joe." However, Rep. Doug Brannon and Sen. Gerald Malloy seem to be exceptions. According to an above-the-fold article in a recent Beaufort Gazette ("Bills aim to close loophole in law: Current rule allowed Roof to buy gun"), these two legislators have introduced bills to extend from three to 28 days the time for the FBI to review criminal records under the National Instant Check System (NICS). PLEASE VETO THIS LEGISLATION in the event it reaches your desk!

The length of the review period had NOTHING TO DO WITH ROOF GETTING A GUN! Data-entry errors and other administrative foul-ups by people in Lexington County and South Carolina state databases impeded the FBI reviewer's attempt to access Roof's arrest records, according to reporting. Nobody knows whether Roof's February 2015 arrest record could have been accessed in days, weeks or months, or that Roof would have been denied a gun as a result.

The NICS system works reasonably well. On a recent day it processed over 185,000 requests! Most background checks are completed in a few minutes. The three-day data-review limit is to prevent abuse of law-abiding citizens' rights under the 2nd Amendment. There is nothing wrong with the current law that can be "fixed" by extending the review period. Human administrative errors, NOT A "LOOPHOLE," appear to have been to blame in hindering rapid access to Roof's criminal record. Extending the review period almost certainly would not have prevented Roof's slaughter of innocents. Roof was exceedingly violent and completely committed to his murderous self-anointed "mission." He would have persisted in obtaining a suitable weapon for his assault.

The Charleston attack was horrible, a tangible example of Biblica-scale "evil." Nevertheless, that's no reason to make the natural and appropriate urge to "do something--anything!," an impetus for meaningless "feel-good" legislation. In the past few years, South Carolina has taken steps to improve its data in the NICS system to help keep guns out of the hands of violent people, while this misguided legislation closes a nonexistent "loophole" and only attacks citizens' fundamental human and civil rights. The principal problem with NICS is that federal enforcement is next to nonexistent against perjurers who falsify their applications.

Thanks, regards & Happy New Year,

/Bob/

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