

February 17, 2015

RE: SB 153

Dear Miss McInerney:

I am sorry I am responding to your email at this late date. I was getting some feedback from my support organization and going over the SB 153. In general, both as a librarian and as a handgun owner (I am not currently a concealed weapons permit holder) I support the intent and the specifics of SB 153. I appreciate the idea of more local control in this issue. As a gun owner I also have concerns about people bringing weapons into the public square especially in public libraries either open or concealed carry. I do not trust myself to carry routinely a weapon into public spaces, as I know from personal experience that there is always the chance of accidental discharge. And if I do not trust myself I certainly do not trust non-law enforcement average citizens to carry weapons into my library. For me, the possibility of more weapons being carried into a library increases the chance of accidents while not correspondingly decreasing the chance of criminal activity.

Having said that I recognize the right to self-defense and I know there are no easy answers that would satisfy everyone's position on this issue.

I look forward to seeing what happens to Senate Bill 153.

Galen Worthington, Director
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