

January 27, 2021

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Kansas State Rifle Association, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 2089, AN ACT concerning firearms; relating to the personal and family protection act; authorizing the issuance of an alternative license during a declared state of disaster emergency; amending K.S.A. 75-7c03 and 75-7c05 and repealing the existing sections.

This bill very simply allows the Kansas Attorney, in his or her sole discretion, to issue an authorization document authorizing a person to carry a concealed firearm in the event that a physical identification card cannot be issued by the Department of Revenue's Division of Motor Vehicles during a declared state of disaster emergency.

The Kansas State Rifle Association believes this is a common-sense policy that protects the rights of those Kansans that have met the requirements to receive a concealed carry license but cannot acquire the actual hard copy license due to circumstances outside of the control of the citizen and the Department of Revenue.

It should be noted that while Kansas citizens age 21 and over, provided they are not otherwise prohibited by law, may carry a concealed firearm without a permit. However, several states in the United States require a citizen of Kansas to have Kansas issued concealed carry permit in order to carry in their respective states.

We respectfully request that the Committee report H.B. 2089 favorable for passage.

Thank you, and I am happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.

Very truly yours,

Jason P. Watkins