

SB978

The second amendment exists for the people, it is a given right, and is short, with little room for misinterpretation, "A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

The Second Amendment to the United States Constitution protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms and was adopted on December 15, 1791 as part of the Bill of Rights. In the 2008 Heller decision, the Supreme Court affirmed for the first time that the right belongs to individuals, exclusively for self-defense in the home, while also including, as dicta, that the right is not unlimited and does not preclude the existence of certain long-standing prohibitions such as those forbidding "the possession of firearms by felons and the mentally ill" or restrictions on "the carrying of dangerous and unusual weapons." State and local governments are limited to the same extent as the federal government from infringing this right.

I ask that you simply maintain all the rights of the people when legislating, and not try to take our rights away or diminish them. You were elected to do the business of the people, for the people. You are mandated as a state to abide by the Federal Constitution, and The Bill of Rights, when legislating. You were elected by us with the understanding that you would protect our rights, and legislate on our behalf, if you don't, you're not doing the business of the people. Where will you stop, guns, minorities, religions, the sick, the elderly, what can we trust you with? If you need to do something with guns, keep them out of the hands of criminals and the mentally ill.

We need better schools, roads, health care that doesn't cost the average man \$7000.00 a year, a workable state budget, work on some of our states problems, do what we elected you to do here. As a Democrat, I didn't vote for gun control. **Please stay on the people's business, don't follow what appears to be some personal agenda, or vendetta that can only lead to weakening our free state, and cause deeper divisions, more chaos, hatred, mistrust, and we don't need any more of that now. Let the republicans handle that, they seem to be doing a great job of that without your help. The people are weary of division and hate, we have too much of that. Can't we just stay on the business of running our state instead of generating more causes for hate and needless and expensive law suits? Thank you for listening.**