

02 March 2021

To: House Committee on Judiciary

Re: House Bill 2543

Dear Chair Representative Bynum, Vice-Chairs Representatives Noble and Power, and members of the Committee:

I am opposed to HB 2543 and strongly urge the Committee to table this bill.

The default position on purchasing a firearm should, by everything right, be *innocent until proven guilty*, the bedrock of our system of laws. Prohibiting a citizen from purchasing a firearm due to an inability of the state police is the equivalent to convicting the would be purchaser of some *supposed* or *imagined* offense without evidence. It says loudly that the state does not trust its citizens.

HB 2543 codifies a guaranteed right in the absence of any criminal history, the exact *infringement* that is prohibited by our 2nd Amendment to the Constitution.

Supporters of bills such as HB 2543 will never be satisfied. They'll say, "We only want to make us register our guns, and, restrict transfers, and ban certain guns, and limit magazine capacity, and prohibit carrying them, and limit ammunition" and.... if they catch us violating any of these dreamed up laws, they'll fine and/or imprison us.... and then take our guns away.

Finally, HB 2543 does absolutely nothing to prevent those who really ought not have a firearm from obtaining one. By definition—criminals do not obey laws.

Sincerely,



Richard Wisner