

Submitter: Colleen Neubert

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB947

I strongly oppose this bill. It opens with what appears to be a ban on “paramilitary activity “ that involves firearms. There are already laws on the books that are clearer and cover what appears to be the goal of the first section, impersonation of police or military. It then goes on to basically try to say the militia is the National Guard.

Not necessarily, this country has a long tradition of unorganized citizen militia. Especially in WW2 where citizens patrolled forests and beaches against threat of invasion while the main body of military was overseas fighting. They were not the national guard but rather fell more under civil defense in category. This bill appears to undermine civilian preparedness that would be invaluable during natural disaster or wartime.

This bill also could have the consequence of paving the way for a more restrictive view of the second amendment and limiting the citizen’s right to bear arms outside of the government force.

This bill will not improve public safety and very well may damage it in the long run.