

Submitter: Keith Kreutzer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3075

This bill turns the right of an individual to defend themselves into a privilege. By requiring a permit and charging a fee for said permit you are telling citizens they are not in fact created equal but that the wealthy are more deserving to exercise their rights than the economically challenged. Not to mention it's just wrong. Would it be appropriate to require a permit and to charge a fee for the ability to read religious or political texts?

The permit portion also states that it will be determined based on a person's arrest record. Shouldn't it be determined based on whether the person was convicted of a crime as opposed to being arrested as a suspect in a crime? At best, this opens the door to people's rights being stripped away due to honest mistakes of law enforcement. In the worst case, we have given the state a tool to strip citizens of their right to protect themselves just by simply arresting and releasing them.

In conclusion, this bill is nothing more than an infringement on citizens' rights disguised as a public health bill so lawmakers can feel like they are doing something positive. It is short-sighted, will be ineffective and is morally wrong. I urge any lawmaker who actually cares about the safety of law-abiding constituents, to vote no on the bill.