

Angie Lake

From: David Munroe <drmunroe@gmail.com> on behalf of David R. Munroe <drm@munroe.net>
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 2:16 PM
To: Angie Lake
Cc: Rep. Greg MacMaster
Subject: HB 5225

Angie Lake, Committee Clerk
House Judiciary Committee

Dear Ms. Lake:

Please provide my comments to the members of the House Judiciary Committee in advance of the hearing on HB 5225 later this week:

Dear Judiciary Committee Chairman Walsh and Members:

Please vote to enact proposed HB 5225 for the following reasons:

HB 5225, introduced by state Representative Paul Opsommer (R-93), would abolish the bureaucratic “permit-to-purchase” handguns which became obsolete when the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) took effect in 1998. Under the current state system, gun buyers must apply with their local law enforcement agency and pass a written test before being authorized to buy a handgun. This “permit” is valid for only one gun and it expires after ten days. Since 1998, federal law has required a national criminal records check for the purchase of any firearm from any gun dealer in every state. Some of the key points of the proposed amendment to HB 5225 are:

- Repeal the state requirement for someone to ask for police permission to purchase a firearm by traveling to a local police station and obtaining a permit to purchase.
- Repeal the requirement to register a completely legally purchased and owned firearm by a law-abiding citizen to be registered with the government through the police.
- Adopt the use of the federally-funded National Instant Criminal Background Check System.
- Default to the federal standard of prohibited persons and each purchase would still require a background check.
- Cut Michigan’s costs by using the federally-administered instant background check system and eliminate wasted man-hours of tracking lawful gun owners in Michigan.

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