



2018 Colorado and Federal Firearms Bills

March 8, 2018

Gun rights activists are still endeavoring to undo the advancements in public safety we achieved in 2013. They also continue to push legislation enshrining their “more guns = less crime” philosophy.

Colorado Bills

SB18-051 Prohibit Multi-Burst Trigger Activators (Bump Stocks +) – Strongly Support

Status: Introduced 1/10 Hearing before Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs on March 19, 1:30 Room 357 (Sen. Merrifield) Amends the definition of “dangerous weapons” to include a “multi-burst trigger activator,” and thereby prohibits the possession, sale and purchase of these devices.

SB18-052 and HB18-1015 Repeal the Ban on High Capacity Magazines – Strongly Oppose

SB052 Status: Introduced 1/10 Hearing before Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs on March 19, 1:30 Room 357 (Sen Hill, Reps. Saine and Humphrey). **HB1015 Status: Defeated in House State, Veterans and Military Affairs on Feb. 21st on 6-3 party line vote.** (Reps. Saine and Humphrey, Sen. Hill). Would remove the ban on the transfer of ammunition magazines over 15 rounds, which became law in 2013. This is the 5th consecutive year for this bill.

SB18-097 Permitless Concealed Carry - Strongly Oppose

Status: Passed Senate 3rd reading on 3/8 with 18-17 party-line vote. Next step: House Committee (Sen. Neville, Rep. Van Winkle) Would allow anyone 21 or over who is not prohibited to possess a handgun to carry it concealed. No sheriff’s discretion, no permit, no background check, no safety training required. This is the 9th year for this proposal.

SB18-185 and HB18-1074 Deadly Force Against Intruder (business) – Strongly oppose

SB18-185 Status: Introduced 3/5 Hearing before Senate Judiciary on March 19, 1:30 Room 352 (Smallwood). **HB18-1074 status: Defeated in House State, Veterans and Military Affairs on Feb. 21st on 6-3 party line vote.** (Rep. Everett, Sen. Marble) Would allow a person to use deadly force against an intruder in a business location if they felt threatened, no matter how slight. This is a Stand Your Ground bill. Think of the shooting death of Trayvon Martin in Florida, and you’ve got the idea. This is the 13th straight year a for a stand your ground (biz) bill.

HB18-1037 Guns in School – Strongly Oppose

Status: Introduced 1/10. Defeated in House State, Veterans and Military Affairs on Feb. 21st on 6-3 party line vote. (Reps. P. Neville and Ransom, Sen. T. Neville). Would allow anyone with a concealed carry permit to carry a hidden handgun into any K-12 public school. This is the 6th consecutive year for a “guns in schools” bill.

HB18-1077 Penalty for Burglary of Firearms - Support

Status: Introduced 1/17. Passed House State, Veterans and Military Affairs on Feb. 15st on vote of 7-2. Next stop Appropriations. (Reps. Valdez and Liston) Makes burglaries where the intent was to steal firearms, firearm parts or accessories, or ammunition a class 3 felony, and in addition provides for a fine from \$10,000 to \$750,000.

Federal Bills of Concern (selection)

S. 59 and H.R. 367 Silencers (Hearing Protection Act) – Strongly oppose

Status: Introduced. Senate 18 co-sponsors. None from Colorado. House: 164 co-sponsors including Buck, Coffman, and Lamborn. Would make silencers easier to obtain. Danger of not knowing location of shooter. Weakens effectiveness of Denver’s Shotspotter.

S. 446 Federally Mandated Concealed Carry (Reciprocity) – Strongly oppose

Status: Introduced. 39 co-sponsors. None from Colorado. Would mandate that every state honor CCW permits from other states and also people from permitless states.

S. 1916, H.R. 3947 and H.R. 3999 Firearms Accessories (Bump Stocks) – Strongly support

Status: Introduced. S. 1916 has 41 co-sponsors including Bennet from Colorado. H.R. 3947 has 175 co-sponsors including DeGette and Perlmutter. H.R. 3999 is bipartisan and has 33 co-sponsors, including Perlmutter, Polis and DeGette. Would prohibit devices (including Bump Stocks) that allow semi-automatic firearms mimic automatics.

S. 2009 Background Checks – Strongly support

Status: Introduced. 35 co-sponsors including Bennet from Colorado. Background Checks on all firearm transfers.

S. 2095 and H.R. 5087 Assault Weapons Ban – Strongly support

Status: Introduced. S. 2095 has 29 co-sponsors, none from Colorado. H.R. 5087 has 173 co-sponsors, including Polis, DeGette, and Perlmutter.

S.2135 Enforce Current Law Regarding National Instant Criminal Background Checks – Strongly support

Status: Introduced. Bipartisan 55 co-sponsors including Bennet. Fix NICS. Requires federal agencies to submit records to NICS (National Instant Criminal Background Check System).

H.R. 38 Federally Mandated Concealed Carry (Reciprocity) – Strongly oppose

Status: Passed House on 12/6 on vote of 231-198. (YES: Coffman, Lamborn and Tipton. NO: Buck, DeGette, Perlmutter, and Polis. Buck voted against the bill because he didn't like the Fix NICS (see. S. 2035 notes) amendment.) Similar to S. 446, but would also allow someone denied a permit in Colorado to get one in a state that doesn't require residency, such as Utah, would allow individuals to take their guns into K-12 schools, and would allow individuals to sue law officers, state, or other political subdivision if they are arrested or detained. Fix NICS added as an amendment.

H.R. 358 Interstate Transportation of Firearms - oppose

Status: Introduced. 73 co-sponsors including Coffman, Tipton and Lamborn from Colorado. Relaxes laws regarding transportation of firearms. Changes burden of proof for prosecution.

H.R. 1181 Veterans Mental Illness (Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act) – Strongly oppose

Status: Passed House 3/16/2017 on a 240-175 vote. (Yes: Buck, Coffman, Lamborn, Tipton, NO: DeGette, Polis, Perlmutter). Has failed so far to garner sufficient support in the Senate for fast-tracking. Would repeal law that requires VA to send to NICS the names of those veterans who are receiving VA benefits for mental illness and who are under guardianship of another. Suicide rate for veterans is twice that of non-veterans.

H.R. 1478 Gun Violence Research Act – Strongly support

Status: Introduced. 154 co-sponsors including, Polis, Perlmutter and DeGette from Colorado. Would repeal prohibitions on Department of Health and Human Services sponsoring research on gun violence.

H.R. 3668 SHARE Act – Strongly oppose

Status: Passed Committee. 5 co-sponsors, none from Colorado. Omnibus "sportsmen's heritage" bill that has numerous parts weakening gun laws: including silencers, interstate transport and armor-piercing bullets.

Now Federal Law

H.J. Res. 40 Overturn Obama Social Security Rules on Mental Illness - opposed

Status: Passed House 2/2/17 on 235-180 vote. (YES: Buck, Coffman, Lamborn, Tipton, NO: DeGette, Polis, Perlmutter). Passed Senate 2/15/17 on 57-43 vote. (Yes: Gardner, NO: Bennet). Signed by President 2/28/17. Overturns Social Security rules drawn up under Obama's executive order that puts people who receive Social Security benefits for being mentally disabled and who are under guardianship of another on the NICS (National Instant Criminal System) list for denial of gun purchases.