

Allegheny County Sportsmen's League, Inc.

CELEBRATING 82 YEARS OF ENHANCING CONSERVATION OF PENNSYLVANIA'S OUTDOOR RESOURCES
THE VOICE OF 200,000 LICENSED HUNTERS AND FISHERMEN IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY



ACSL on the Web at www.acslpa.org

Member: National Rifle Association
National Shooting Sports Foundation
U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance
Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms

Mailing Address:
1028 Hulton Road
Verona, PA 15147

President:
JACK WALTERS
HM: 412.884.2148
jwalters@acslpa.org

First Vice President:
MIKE CHRISTESON
HM: 724.222.6160
mchristeson@acslpa.org

Second Vice President:
KIM STOLFER
HM: 412.221.3346
kstolfer@acslpa.org

Treasurer:
JOSEPH MALLINO
jmallino@acslpa.org

Directors:
DAVE BAGALEY
MIKE MARANCHE
JIM LIBERTO
MIKE KOZAK
AUDREY PRITCHARD
HARRY LEWELLEN
EDGAR STEPHAN
KLINT MACRO

Legislative Chairman:
KIM STOLFER
706 Dutch Hill Rd.
McDonald, PA 15057
HM. 412.221.3346
FAX. 412.257.1099
activist@fyi.net

Executive Secretary
Sara Barnett
1028 Hulton Road
Verona, PA 15147
Phone: 412.793.4437
sbarnett@acslpa.org

Constitutional Carry HB 230

Rep Rick Saccone has introduced Constitutional Carry (**HB 230**) and is currently seeking co-sponsors for this important legislation.

Constitutional Carry will create a two-tiered system with the carrying of firearms for lawful purposes:

- **Option 1** gives citizens the ability to obtain a (LTCF) License To Carry Firearm permit that is valid throughout Pennsylvania and would provide for carrying firearms in other states (currently, (27) states either recognize Pennsylvania LTCF's or there is a reciprocity agreement in effect).

- **Option 2** recognizes that Commonwealth citizens have a fundamental constitutional right to keep and bear arms (Article 1, Section 21) and that 'no LTCF' is required for law abiding citizens to carry a firearm throughout Pennsylvania.

It is a well recognized fact that criminals cannot and do not apply for LTCF permits. The statement (below) by Philadelphia District Attorney Williams underscores that reality:

- District Attorney R. Seth Williams said the "85% of the homicides in Philadelphia are caused by handguns, with 99% of those being committed by individuals not licensed to carry and after having obtained the handgun illegally."

If a citizen passes a criminal background to purchase a new firearm it is patently unjust and constitutionally questionable to add layers of bureaucratic regulations on to those who are least likely to commit a crime. Then when one examines the enforcement of the laws, against criminals, for 'carrying firearms without a license' the reasoning behind mandating a license 'only' for law abiding citizens quickly falls apart.

The enactment of this legislation into law will also benefit citizens exercising their 'right to bear arms' in a number of areas:

- **Transporting firearms** - Currently in Pennsylvania it is a crime to transport a firearm (section 6102 definition) without a license except in four very narrow exceptions in the law unless the individual transporting a

firearm has a LTCF permit. Stopping to refuel one's vehicle or at a restaurant or even to going to a restroom without having a LTCF permit puts the unknowing, law abiding citizen in jeopardy of prosecution for a misdemeanor 1 crime.

- **Limit abuses of law abiding citizens** – recent examples of incidents throughout Pennsylvania (ex. Mark Fiorino/Philadelphia) demonstrates that the licensing process and carrying of firearms by law abiding citizens is rife with problems and institutionalized prejudice.

- **Reform the issuance of LTCF permits** – a number of urban centers in Pennsylvania have instituted policies and procedures that directly or indirectly conflicts with state law (section 6109). This legislation also clarifies the intent of the law and the legislature regarding these issuance procedures in numerous areas.

- **Removes the exemption** for cities of the 1st class and restates the constitutional premise of equal protections.

Four states currently have Constitutional Carry:

1. Vermont – (In effect for over three decades and the state's violent crime rate is usually the lowest in the nation)
2. Alaska 2003
3. Arizona 2010
4. Wyoming 2011
5. Arkansas 2013
6. Kansas 2015

Other states considering Constitutional Carry are:

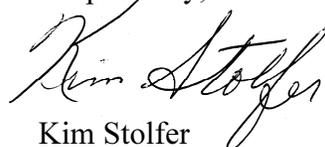
Colorado, Georgia, **Idaho**, Iowa, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, **Montana**, **Mississippi**, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, Ohio, **South Carolina**, South Dakota, Texas, Tennessee, **West Virginia**, Oregon, Utah, Virginia. In 2013 Maine failed passage by one vote.

West Virginia & Montana both passed Constitutional Carry in 2015 by wide margins, only to be vetoed by governors.

In 2015 governors in Idaho and Mississippi both signed limited Constitutional Carry for their states that only applies to rural parts of state. On 4-23-2015 passed South Carolina house 90 to 18.

We respectfully request that you consider adding your support to HB 230, by co-sponsoring, this important upgrade to a law abiding citizen's right to self defense.

Respectfully,



Kim Stolfer
Chairman, Legislative Committee