
[Directors] Urgent action required

Ernie P. via Directors

Fri, Jan 10, 2020 at 1:32 PM

Reply-To: "Ernie P." <epadgette@sprynet.com>

To: Virginia Chapter Presidents

TO: Virginia Division Chapter Presidents

01/10/2020

FROM: Ernie Padgette

SUBJECT: Pending legislation in Virginia

All Virginia Division Chapter Presidents

Immediate action is required by all Virginia Division IWLA members to prevent passage of bills introduced in the Virginia Senate and House of Delegates. Committee votes will be held on Monday, to determine which bills will be introduced onto the respective floors of the Senate and House. It is urgent that our legislators, both Senators and Delegates, hear from us before these bills are voted upon in committee. And please remember that, although 501(c) 3 organizations such as IWLA can not engage in partisan party politics, legislative advocacy concerning bills is completely acceptable for nonprofit organizations and a very common practice among our chapters, divisions and clearly the national organization. Most of our members will probably readily recognize when advocacy crosses the line into the political realm, and that is a line we must not cross.

More than 100 anti-gun and anti-shooting range bills have, or are expected to be, filed by the end of business today. These bills, if passed, will have a negative impact upon our ability to operate our shooting ranges; and will prevent our members from owning and using their firearms of choice. ALL of our shooting ranges could be potentially affected; and the bills introduced would affect both rifles and pistols in common use at our ranges. Some bills, if passed by the House of Delegates and Senate, and signed by our Governor, would result in outright confiscation of certain firearms and magazines with a capacity of over ten (10) rounds of ammunition. Others would shut down any shooting range within 500 yards of a zoned residential area (Senate Bill 353 or SB353). Another would nullify the current laws which prevent people from moving near a shooting range and then complaining about the noise (preemption or "grandfathering").

Rather than attempting to list all of the negative bills being introduced, I would urge you to simply tell your members to go to the Virginia Shooting Sports Association (VSSA) website, www.myvssa.org, where they can obtain the latest available listing of anti-gun and anti-shooting range bills which have been introduced. They should be aware bills are being introduced hourly, and the information listed may

not be fully up to date. VSSA is the state affiliate of the National Rifle Association (NRA); and has represented Virginia gun owners since 1938. They are also the ONLY Virginia State pro-gun organization with a full time professional lobbyist in Richmond.

Please get the word to your members by whatever means you have, as time is critical. They can get the latest news at www.myvssa.org; they can get contact info for their state representatives at <https://whosmy.viriniageneralassembly.gov/>; and they can express their opinion of pending legislation directly to those representatives by phone, e-mail and/or letter. E-mail may be best, since their phones seem to be very busy at the moment. Please ask them to do so in a respectful and reasonable manner.

Attached you will find the current IWLA National Conservation Policies regarding firearms. Also attached is a notice to the Arlington-Fairfax Chapter of IWLA by current VSSA President Joe Turner. This e-mail notice was coordinated with the IWLA National Headquarters.

Please contact me directly if you have any questions. Thanks; Ernie P.

Ernie Padgette
President,
Virginia Division, IWLA

2 attachments



IWLA 2019 Conservation Policies.docx

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VSSA Insert (2) (1).docx

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