

Dear Senator Coghill:

I would like to personally commend and thank you and your staff for introducing Senate Bill 176. The University of Alaska policy barring firearms on campus not only directly infringes on our Constitutional rights, but it leaves students (many of whom are, or were formerly, active military personnel) at the mercy of chance.

Given the proliferation of student violence in recent times (which has incidentally coincided an ineffectual expansion of anti-gun legislation), students fear such an incident occurring at their school. It is important to note that by restricting legitimate firearm carry, nothing is being done to hinder the type of individual with the mental capacities to carry out such atrocious actions. This is common sense logic: those who are willing to murder are ALSO willing to ignore policy barring firearms on campus.

Compelling student victims to wait for emergency responders is the implication of such policies. However we must keep in mind: when seconds count, police are only minutes away. The result of the policy is essentially a "shooting fish in a barrel" scenario almost too appalling to contemplate. Not only will this bill protect our natural rights and Constitutional liberties, but it will profoundly deter deranged psychopaths from targeting University of Alaska campuses. The incentive to harm university students will be overwhelmed by their vested capacity for self defense.

As President of Young Americans for Liberty at University of Alaska, Anchorage, I can tell you with confidence that your defense of liberty has not gone unnoticed.

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