



March 4, 2014

Dear Senator Coghill,

I am writing in support of SB176, Regulation of Firearms and Knives By University.

Last year Alaska enacted HB 33 which included Knife Rights' Knife Law Preemption language, repealing all local knife laws and ordinances and occupying the field of knife regulation by the state legislature. This bill passed with overwhelming majorities in both houses.

SB176 is a logical extension of Alaska's existing preemption law. By preventing Universities from regulating firearms and knives except in very specific circumstances, the legislature will protect the rights of law abiding citizens who happen to be on campus.

Regarding knives specifically, many, if not most, Alaskans carry a knife of some kind every single day. Whether it's a pocket knife carried by a shop owner or a utility knife carried by a hunter or first responder, it is essential, and only fair and commonsense, that folks who simply cross onto the grounds of a university campus not be subject to a criminal prosecution for possessing a tool they carry with them everywhere they go.

It is for these reasons that I urge the Judiciary Committee to pass SB176.

Thank you

Todd Rathner
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