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Sent: Saturday, March 08, 2014 9:24 AM

To: Sen. Hollis French

Cc: Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Fred Dyson; Sen.Donald.Olson@akleg.go; Sen. Bill Wielechowski

Subject: Opposition to Senate Bill 176

I am sorry to miss your annual pizza party today from 1 to 3 p.m. at Spenard Recreation Center.

Issues that I am concerned with include Senate Bill 176. I am against the proliferation of guns in this country and can make no sense of it. Even if you get past the Second Amendment being written at a time when gun technology consisted of muzzle loaders and before we had a defense department bigger than all the rest of the world combined, I don't see how carrying guns on campus comports with a "well regulated militia." And, according to a survivor of the Virginia Tech shootings, even if he had a gun, he couldn't have stopped the killer—as he was already shot before he realized what was going on. This victim also made the point that if it were true that more guns make people safer, then the U.S., with 300 million guns in private ownership, would already be the safest country in the world.

I find the NRA-ILA website also objectionable and irrational. On it, the NRA cites five instances, from February 12 through 25, in which guns were successfully used in self-defense—five instances in the entire country over a two-week period. The site does not acknowledge that in the U.S. guns are used in the violent deaths of an average of 80 people per day and send more than 200 to the hospital.

Today I am driving to the Valley to watch my grandson play in the Northern Lights Conference championship game. Last night he was honored as the MVP for the season and next year will be playing for UAA. Next year I want to be able to go to UAA games without worrying about untrained or deranged people, like Michael Dunn and Curtis Reeves, packing guns. And I don't want to feel that I have to carry a gun to protect myself and others.

Sent from my iPad