



## More Mississippians respond to new gun control measures



By [Mississippi Press Staff](#)

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PASCAGOULA, Mississippi -- President Obama's 23 executive orders on gun control drew swift reaction from Mississippi officials in addition to Gov. Phil Bryant.

Mississippi Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann

Rep. Chris Brown, representing district 20 in the Mississippi Legislature, is finalizing a bill to be known as the "Firearms Freedom Act," according to a news release from Mississippi for Liberty.

In its current form, this measure would exclude firearms and ammunition manufactured in Mississippi from any federal regulations or bans as long as the firearm remains in the state of Mississippi.

The justification for such a law is that under the constitution the federal government has authority to regulate interstate commerce but not "intrastate" commerce thus protecting Mississippi manufacturers from federal regulation.

Aided by the recently formed grassroots organization Mississippi for Liberty, Brown's bill has been steadily gaining steam over the past several months through a campaign that involved internet activism and appearances at events such as gun shows.

Mississippi Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann issued the following statement through his office.

"President Obama circumventing Congress by limiting gun rights through Executive Order only silences the voice of Mississippians who oppose any restrictions on our Constitutional right to keep and possess firearms," Hosemann said.

"I applaud Governor Bryant, Speaker (Philip) Gunn, and members of the State Legislature who have pledged to block any attempt of the federal government to limit or restrict our Second Amendment right to bear arms."

U.S. Rep. Steven Palazzo indicated he would not support any of Obama's initiatives.

"I have heard from many of you regarding the gun control proposals the Obama administration is pushing," Palazzo said in a statement issued by his office. "As an American and citizen soldier, I am a tireless supporter of Second Amendment rights and the protection for individuals to keep and bear arms.

"The requests the president made of Congress today fly in the face of those rights, and demonstrate an increasingly reckless disregard for the Constitution and congressional authority. I will not support such measures.

"I also applaud Governor Bryant and the state legislature for taking actions to protect the rights of Mississippians at the state level.

"In the past I have supported countless measures defending your constitutional right to keep and bear arms, and I will continue to do so."

Mississippi Republican Sen. Thad Cochran said, "I have consistently opposed proposals which threaten the rights of law abiding citizens to own guns, and I will continue to do so as we enter this debate. The President's executive actions, as well as his legislative proposals, are cause for serious concern. It is my expectation that Congress will critically assess these ideas to determine what might actually work to improve public safety without infringing on the Second Amendment rights granted to citizens by our Constitution."

On his Facebook page, Charles Busby posted, "I was very proud to stand today with the Governor and the Speaker of the House to make it perfectly clear that we will not tolerate the disarmament of Mississippi's citizens by an over-reaching federal government and an unconstitutional executive order issued by a president who snubs his nose at the wisdom of our founding fathers. We are guaranteed the right to bear arms, not for the purposes of hunting, but to protect OUR republic from tyranny. I pray we are far from that need."

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