

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Allison Bidlack <albidlack@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2016 12:50 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Mike Dunleavy  
**Subject:** SB 174

Dear Senators Dunleavy and McGuire,

I am writing to express my absolute disapproval of SB 174. I am faculty at the University of Alaska Southeast, and fully believe that the Board of Regents has the right and authority to regulate the possession and use of firearms on UA campuses. I do not want firearms on campus, in our classrooms, in our cafeterias, in our gyms, in our libraries, or in our outdoor spaces. The safety and security of our students, faculty, and staff will NOT be increased by more firearms (especially concealed ones); to the contrary, our freedom from fear will be severely reduced if at all times we are wondering who is carrying a firearm and what they intend to do with it. My right to bear arms is not impinged by common-sense rules and regulations, just as my right to free speech is not impinged by noise ordinances that do not allow me to yell at my neighbors through a megaphone at three in the morning. I am asking you as a long-time Alaskan, a gun owner, and a hunter to remove your support from this bill.

Sincerely,  
Allison Bidlack  
Juneau

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** bart oconnor <oconnorbc@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 01, 2016 12:26 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Bill Wielechowski  
**Subject:** SB174

*Honorable Senators, regarding SB174 I have the following observations and recommend the bill be modified appropriately;*

*First, my Son is, and my Daughter will soon be, a Student of UA. My son lives in the dorms. He is a responsible gun owner, has had training (including a course from the University!), and is an expert shot. My Daughter is also a responsible gun owner, has had training, and has qualified with the rating of Distinguished Expert. I am retired military with 20 years of service, have law enforcement experience, training, and am also qualified as a Distinguished Expert.*

*In keeping with the "right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed" as written in the State and US Constitution, I believe that essentially the entire bill would be:*

Sec. 14.40.173. Regulation of firearms and knives. (a) The authority to regulate firearms and knives is reserved to the state, and, except as specifically provided by statute, the Board of Regents may not enact or enforce a policy regulating the possession, ownership, use, carrying, registration, storage, or transportation of firearms or knives.

*PERIOD. End of Bill.*

*While other portions of the bill may seem reasonable, some do not or are contradictory with the basic right.*

1 (b) The Board of Regents may not regulate the possession, ownership, use, carrying, registration, storage, or transportation of concealed handguns or knives, except (1) in a manner identical to state law;

*I agree with this, except it should be period; no other arguments/exceptions*

(2) when the behavior of a student or an employee demonstrates that the student or employee poses a risk of harm to self or others;

*Who determines what behavior constitutes a risk? For anti-gun people, the fact that a firearm even exists constitutes risk to self and others. The regents could say that anyone that has a firearm is automatically mentally unstable and prohibited from possession etc. State law should be followed regarding who is a risk to self or others.*

(3) in student dormitories or other shared living quarters;

*I believe firearms shall not be infringed. This is the student's home and they have a right to self defense, I believe this falls under castle doctrine and AS 11.81.335, specifically (b) (1) (B) and (b) (5)*

(b) A person may not use deadly force under this section if the person knows that, with complete personal safety and with complete safety as to others being defended, the person can avoid the necessity of using deadly force by leaving the area of the encounter, except there is no duty to leave the area if the person is

(1) on premises

(A) that the person owns or leases;

**(B) where the person resides, temporarily or permanently; or**

(C) as a guest or express or implied agent of the owner, lessor, or resident;

(2) a peace officer acting within the scope and authority of the officer's employment or a person assisting a peace officer under [AS 11.81.380](#);

(3) in a building where the person works in the ordinary course of the person's employment;

(4) protecting a child or a member of the person's household; or

**(5) in any other place where the person has a right to be.**

8 (4) in university facilities where health services, counseling services, or other services related to sexual harassment or violence are provided; (5) in university facilities during adjudication of staff or student disciplinary issues; or (6) in restricted access areas under (c)(3) of this section.

*I don't have a problem with these things except that they violate the right to keep and bear arms and other premises as previously discussed above.*

13 (c) The Board of Regents may adopt and enforce policies (1) regulating the possession, ownership, use, carrying, registration, storage, and transportation of openly carried firearms and knives;

*This one HAS TO GO. To say they cannot adopt policies for concealed weapons but that they can for open carry weapons is ludicrous. This paragraph directly contradicts Sec. 14.40.173, the Alaska and US Constitution, and the very idea behind SB174. The Board of Regents can regulate ownership? Really? I don't think so! If my son were to check his firearm out of the university armory, and carry it to his car, he would then be in violation - "sorry, you were open carrying on campus and that's illegal so off to jail you go".*

*I hope that you find these opinions helpful and will incorporate them into the legislation.*

*Respectfully,*

*Bart O'Connor*

*Wasilla*

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** bonniewanat@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 01, 2016 10:35 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire  
**Subject:** Opposing SB 174

To the members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Bonnie Wanat and I'm a supporter of the Alaska chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America/Everytown for Gun Safety. We're a grassroots movement of Americans fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and protect people from gun violence. We campaign for strong solutions to lax gun laws that put the safety of our families and communities at risk.

I'm writing today to oppose SB 174, which would force the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska to allow guns on campus. This is a dangerous and un-necessary bill.

Campus police chiefs, college presidents, college faculty and 79% of students do not want concealed guns on their campuses. This dangerous bill would put our University campuses at risk by inserting guns into the equation. We should listen to their voices of reason and vote no on this bill.

Sincerely,  
Bonnie Wanat

Sent from my iPhone

## **Forrest Wolfe**

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**From:** Caia Delavergne <cdogawesome@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 02, 2016 3:08 AM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire  
**Subject:** SB 174 Testimony

**Thank you to the members of the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to submit my testimony on Bill SB 174.**

**My name is Caia Delavergne,**

**Today, you have the power to determine the fate of SB 174, a bill that would force the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska to allow guns on campus.**

**I am testifying on this bill today because I know firsthand the dangerous consequences of a gun in the wrong hands. I was shot in the head by an acquaintance this past fall while I was a student at the University of Alaska – Anchorage. Thankfully, I survived and made a full recovery minus my left eye, but on October 23, 2015 – the day I was shot -- my life changed forever. I was able to return to classes just 5 weeks after being shot. But if there were guns allowed on campus I would not have made that brave decision as her post-traumatic stress would have been too great to allow her to return. Campuses should be a safe place for all students and faculty; if SB 174 is passed I will not feel safe to attend classes and events at the University.**

**Every day in this country, 91 Americans are killed by gun violence and hundreds more are injured. And too many of these shootings are happening on our college campuses. Since 2013, there has been a staggering 170 school shootings -- and this year alone, there have been 10 shootings on school grounds. With each of these shootings, the lives of the victims, survivors and their families and the college community at large is changed irrevocably.**

**If passed, Alaska would join the ranks of only two other states that currently force colleges to allow all permit holders to carry guns on campus, and six others that require guns to be allowed in limited circumstances. The reason that most states don't have these laws on the books is because it's a dangerous policy. This is echoed by the very community responsible for maintaining public safety – University police chiefs – 89% of University police chiefs oppose policies that allow guns on campus. It is also echoed by the student community -- seventy-nine percent of whom said that they would not feel safe if faculty, students or visitors were allowed to bring concealed guns on campus.**

**Law enforcement, our college administrators, and the student body all know far better than anyone that allowing guns on college campus won't make students safer. Adding guns on our college campuses – where there is often a mix of alcohol, drug use, and highly stressful situations -- goes against common sense.**

**This dangerous bill would put our University students and staff at risk. I urge the committee to vote no on SB 174.**

**Thank you.**

**Sincerely,**

**Caia Delavergne (Survivor)**

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Chelan Schreifels <chelan34@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 02, 2016 2:58 AM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Johnny Ellis; Rep. Geran Tarr; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Bill Wielechowski  
**Subject:** SB 174 testimony

Thank you to the members of the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to submit my testimony on Bill SB 174.

My name is Chelan Scheifels and I'm a volunteer with the Alaska chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. Moms is a grassroots movement of American parents in Alaska and across the country fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and reduce gun violence. I joined this group because I am a multiple incident gun violence survivor and I have been affected by gun violence too many times!

Today, you have the power to determine the fate of SB 174, a bill that would force the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska to allow guns on campus.

I am testifying on this bill today because I know firsthand the dangerous consequences of a gun in the wrong hands. My daughter, Caia Delavergne, was shot in the head by an acquaintance this past fall while she was a student at the University of Alaska – Anchorage. Thankfully, my daughter survived and will make a full recovery minus her left eye, but on October 23, 2015 – the day she was shot -- my life changed forever. Thankfully, my daughter is still here today – but too many other Americans are not. Caia was able to return to classes just 5 weeks after she was shot. But if there were guns allowed on campus she would not have made that brave decision as her post-traumatic stress would have been too great to allow her to return. Campuses should be a safe place for all students and faculty; if SB 174 is passed Caia and I will not feel safe to attend classes and events at the University.

Every day in this country, 91 Americans are killed by gun violence and hundreds more are injured. And too many of these shootings are happening on our college campuses. Since 2013, there has been a staggering 170 school shootings -- and this year alone, there have been 10 shootings on school grounds. With each of these shootings, the lives of the victims, survivors and their families and the college community at large is changed irrevocably.

If passed, Alaska would join the ranks of only two other states that currently force colleges to allow all permit holders to carry guns on campus, and six others that require guns to be allowed in limited circumstances. The reason that most states don't have these laws on the books is because it's a dangerous policy. This is echoed by the very community responsible for maintaining public safety – University police chiefs – 89% of University police chiefs oppose policies that allow guns on campus. It is also echoed by the student community -- seventy-nine percent of whom said that they would not feel safe if faculty, students or visitors were allowed to bring concealed guns on campus. My daughter is part of that 79%.

Law enforcement, our college administrators, and the student body all know far better than anyone that allowing guns on college campus won't make students safer. Adding guns on our college campuses – where there is often a mix of alcohol, drug use, and highly stressful situations -- goes against common sense.

This dangerous bill would put our University students and staff at risk. I urge the committee to vote no on SB 174.

Thank you.

Sincerely a concerned mother and citizen,  
Chelan Schreifels



## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Dave Atcheson <daveatcheson@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2016 4:21 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Bill Wielechowski  
**Subject:** FW: Bill 174

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Dear Judiciary Committee Members:

I know you are busy so I will keep this brief. I am a gun owner, but would implore you ***not*** to allow concealed weapons on UA campuses. Especially troubling are the thought of guns in dorms. I am getting old, but not so old I don't remember what it was like to be 18 and living in a dorm, with many other young people, often away from home for the first time, and going through an important and often difficult transition. It was a crazy time, students constantly in crisis, and I have no doubt, if there had been firearms added to this volatile mix, there would have been bloodshed. Adding weapons in this as well as classroom and counseling situations, does not make the situation safer, it makes it much more dangerous, and I hope you can live with the possible consequences.

Thank you for your time.

Dave Atcheson  
Box 145  
Sterling Ak 99672  
907-398-4216

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Jenny Rasche <coleyblake2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2016 2:23 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Bill Wielechowski  
**Subject:** SB 174

Regarding SB 174, the bill that would allow students to carry concealed weapons on UA campuses, I want to voice my opinion AGAINST this bill. I deserve to be listened to, because I work at the UAA campus in Homer, and I will be directly affected and endangered by this bill, if it passes.

Would you please consider the following couple of scenarios:

1. Say you pass this bill, and we are now allowing people to walk around campus carrying guns. Sure, there are a few people who are probably carrying them illegally anyway. But if this bill passes, **there will be more**. I'm the person on our campus who takes payments, and sometimes I have to inform students that they have late payment fees, or holds on their accounts, or large unpaid balances that financial aid didn't cover. So, say one of these students walks up to me, and he has a gun, and I have to pass on this type of unpleasant news. He gets pissed off and shoots. How stupid is that? By passing this bill, you have gone *almost* all the way towards letting this guy shoot me, you've given him everything he needs, the only thing you didn't do is pull the trigger. Everything up to that moment is totally legal. It's only in that nano-second, when he makes the decision (spur of the moment, probably without thinking too hard about it) that he commits a crime. And we, with our permissive gun laws, have let him get SO far towards committing that crime, committing a horrible act of violence, changing lives forever. Do we really want to give him THAT much help?
2. In the above situation, I'm sure proponents of this bill will say that I need to defend myself. I have no problem with other people owning guns, etc. But I personally have no interest in buying a gun or carrying a gun. Is it really up to ME to do that? Is that really my only option, if I don't want the student in the above scenario to kill me in a moment of anger? To me, that is the opposite of a civilized society, that is lawlessness.
3. I'm sure that some people who support this kind of bill are envisioning some great hero moment, when someone walks in to shoot up a roomful of people, and you (hero) grab your concealed weapon and shoot him and save all those lives. How often do you think that will actually happen? What if you (the hero) are away from your desk at that particular moment? What if you locked the gun in your desk and the key is in your coat pocket on the coat hanger? What if you leave your desk unlocked and someone ELSE gains access to your gun and commits a crime with it? What if you make a mistake? What if another "good guy" is also pointing a gun, and you shoot him? In all the panic and stress and noise of a moment like that, I just doubt that you heroes will always know what to do. One thing that we can always count on is that humans are fallible, we will occasionally get careless or forgetful. All of these accidents happen, and are likely to increase if this bill passes. And I seriously doubt this wonderful hero moment that you envision will compensate for ALL the lives lost due to such accidents.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you will respect the UA Board of Regents' position on this issue, and not allow this bill to pass.

Respectfully,

Jenny Rasche

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Judy Andree <jagster42@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2016 1:24 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Bill Wielechowski  
**Subject:** Testimony on SB 174: Opposition

Dear Members of the Senate Judicial Committee:

I write as a mother, grandmother, and retired Associate Professor at UAS in response to SB 174. I am against this bill as I believe it will create campuses that are far less safe for students. The law of averages teaches us that when there are more guns, there are more victims, whether they be from accidental shootings, anger-driven shootings, or suicides.

I find myself wondering if I should ever find myself in an adjunct position, as retired faculty sometimes find themselves, if I would spend much time, should this bill pass, wondering who might be carrying a concealed weapon in my classroom. Might it be the two students in the back who have yet to turn in any work and spend much time looking at their cell phones and I find myself having to give them midterm evaluations soon. Or might it be the student who has loudly proclaimed that I am just one of those liberal professors who thinks she knows it all and I should be apologizing to the students for something I just said (which was something about critical thinking with no political overtones). Or is it that moody student in the second row who, rumor has it, has just broken up with his/her lover. I certainly would be taking a different slant on these situations, all of which and more I have faced as a college faculty member.

College is a stressful period for many students as it involves more rigorous academics than most have had in high school, it involves being on one's own for the first time, and it involves a wide variety of new social experiences. I am not sure this is the time to arm a goodly number of those students and expect that campuses will somehow be made safer. As a parent, I worry that a student would get into a situation where drinking is involved and be placed in danger by an armed student who is drunk and suddenly pulls out a concealed weapon and either accidentally or deliberately shoots. This would be a devastating tragedy for the shooter and an unbearable one for the victim's family. As parents we can caution our children against underage drinking, but we can't go back in time and change the tragic outcome of an alcohol-driven shooting. As a parent, I would think twice about sending my child to a campus where concealed-carry is allowed.

I hope that it is decided to let University administrators, faculty, and the Board of Regents make policy on this issue. They have the most experience with the college scene and the problems that students face as college students. They are the people who are directly involved with students and whose role it is to assure the safest campus possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Judy Andree  
5985 Lund Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

907-780-6767 (home)

907-321-1559 (cell)

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** kenaigary@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 6:47 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Charlie Huggins; Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Gary Stevens; Sen. Berta Gardner  
**Cc:** Sen. Peter Micciche; Rep. Mike Chenault; Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Kurt Olson  
**Subject:** SB 174 Guns on Campus Letter

Dear Senators Dunleavy, Huggins, Giessel, Stevens, Gardner, McGuire and Stoltze,

Thank you in advance for reading my letter. I am the Director/CEO of Kenai Peninsula College, a community campus system of the University of Alaska Anchorage. I am taking this opportunity to personally weigh in on SB 174 and provide you my thoughts as to why I do not support this bill. This letter does not constitute an official position by the University of Alaska.

In order to provide context to my comments, I believe you should know the following about my background. I was raised in a family that used guns for hunting and I shot my first squirrel when I was six years old. Since that time, I have hunted across many states for big and small game and have been quite successful in my pursuits. I also on occasion shoot trap and visit a target shooting range. I presently own four rifles, three shotguns and three handguns. I've been a NRA member for 30+ years and when Alaska required people to take the concealed carry course, I took and passed the program. I am a retired Air Force officer and was an expert marksman.

I have raised my son as I was raised, teaching him how to handle a firearm safely and how to hunt. He too, has been quite a successful hunter and marksman. I now have two grandsons and we will soon be teaching them in the same tradition.

As the director of a college with almost 2,500+ students enrolled each semester, I cannot support concealed carry of weapons on University of Alaska campuses. Since the bill's introduction I have heard from a number of faculty and staff who say they will either retire or resign. Why? Because they feel they will be in potential danger each time they come to one of our campuses.

I believe if a legislator introduced a bill to allow concealed carry in the capitol many of your staffers and fellow legislators would fear coming to work. And the capitol is much more secure with only one access point for visitors and armed security guards roaming the halls.

By the same token, Alaska oil and gas companies on the North Slope do not allow their employees to bring weapons or alcohol to the job site. These companies want to ensure the safety of their employees and their hard assets.

I believe our assets—students, faculty, staff and the public—deserve the same consideration as those like you that work in the capitol or your neighbors that work on the Slope. Are Alaska college students, our future, a less valuable commodity to our state than pump stations and drilling platforms?

Each semester, KPC has about 170 high school students taking our regular college level courses for dual credit. This does not account for all the other high school and younger students we have on campus throughout the

year. Over the next six months we will host more than 200 high school age students for various college orientation programs with many of them staying in our residence hall.

Weapons are not permitted on K-12 premises and they should not be allowed on UA campuses for the same and even more reasons.

It's possible your committee might not receive a lot of public comments opposed to your bill, but understand the following as a very possible reason: Alaska prides itself on being a pro-gun state, having a last frontier mentality and defending our families and friends from humans and animals in defense of life or property, so going against this bill can be perceived as being against motherhood and apple pie. Some of my faculty and staff have said they fear retribution or ridicule if they go on the record opposing the bills. Keep this in mind when you hear or read testimony.

One of our faculty members submitted a letter when a similar bill was introduced by Senator Coghill in 2014 and she summed it up well: *"This would do nothing to make me feel safer. It also would make it impossible for me to shoulder responsibility for the safety of those in my class. The effect would be quite the opposite, by putting 'authority' in the hands of those carrying guns regardless of their maturity, stability, or current frame of mind."*

I would appreciate your reconsideration of the necessity of this bill that will negatively change the face of postsecondary education in our state forever.

Sincerely,

-signed-

Gary J. Turner

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** coldness@acsalaska.net  
**Sent:** Monday, February 15, 2016 5:28 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire  
**Subject:** SB174

Dear Honorable Senator McGuire,

I am writing to you to express my strong opposition to the SB174, "An Act relating to the regulation of firearms and knives by the University of Alaska". I have taught general, organic and environmental chemistry at the University of Alaska Southeast for the past 15 years and have on occasion had the unpleasant experience of dealing with students that, because of failing grades, feel they are being treated unfairly. These situations have traditionally been handled with great attention and care through a cooperative and unbiased process involving the student, the UAS administration and myself. Oftentimes, the process can evoke irrational response from the student. Fortunately, concealed weapons are a violation of the University of Alaska Board of Regents Policy and thus the risk of the grade dispute situation turning violent has been minimized. I'm sure you have experienced similar situations dealing with impassioned constituents. Perhaps you can take a moment to consider how you would feel about talking with an aggravated citizen if there were no impediment to that individual entering your office with a firearm. Regardless of whether you feel threatened by this hypothetical scenario, I do indeed feel threatened by the intent of SB174 to remove any impediment to students (and any other persons) to arrive armed to the University of Alaska. Other than to introduce a general level of anxiety and heightened fear of violence on campus, I see no rational reason to allow concealed weapons on the University of Alaska campuses or to limit the Board of Regents ability to determine policy for the University of Alaska campuses.

I urge you to reconsider your support of SB174.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hoferkamp  
Associate Professor of Chemistry  
University of Alaska Southeast  
Juneau, AK



## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Margaret McNeil <bounce@list.everytown.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2016 1:24 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire  
**Subject:** Margaret in Anch: Guns on campus? Not in Alaska

Dear Sen. McGuire,

**I'm writing to ask you to vote NO on SB 174**, a dangerous bill that would force Alaska's colleges and universities to allow guns on their campuses.

Alaska's public universities already allow qualified security officials and certain law enforcement officers to carry firearms on campuses -- and there's no evidence that letting kids bring handguns to class makes anyone any safer.

The majority of campus police chiefs, college presidents, students and faculty oppose this legislation. Alaska will be one of the only states in the country with such a dangerous policy.

Allowing guns on campus is not only a dangerous choice, it's an expensive one. Schools in states with these policies have seen their security and insurance costs skyrocket.

**I hope you will take a stand for public safety and vote NO on SB 174.**

Thank you,

Margaret McNeil  
84- 75th  
Anch, AK  
cobaltmcneil@yahoo.com

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Mark Madden <mmadden@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 01, 2016 9:15 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire  
**Subject:** Campus Carry Legislation

**Importance:** High

RE: Campus Carry Legislation Senate Bill 174.

“Yes” to faculty and staff being allowed to carry concealed weapons on campus.

“No” to students being allowed to carry concealed weapons on campus.

I am a full professor at one of the UA main campus’ and have been for 18 years with a career in the field of education of 43 years. I don’t want students to be allowed to carry concealed weapons anywhere on campus. However, faculty and staff should be allowed to carry concealed weapons provided they volunteer to do so and have received the state required training for concealed carry permitting.

Faculty in particular but also staff are viewed by students as being in positions of authority which is correct and that makes us targets for the irate, upset, disgruntled, and emotionally unstable student. Virtually every campus shooting, including at one of my alma maters, has included a faculty member as one of the fatally injured.

From time-to-time, in the course of our responsibilities we have to give students failing grades and provide advice the student refuses to accept. Without the right to carry concealed weapons, we have no way to protect ourselves and other innocent students and colleagues.

Please modify SB 174 to allow faculty and staff to carry concealed weapons while prohibiting students from doing so.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Madden

244-9365

[mmadden@gci.net](mailto:mmadden@gci.net)

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Mo ! <mohaddock58@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 01, 2016 10:39 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Bill Wielechowski  
**Subject:** SB 174 Testimony

To the members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Maureen (Mo) Haddock, I am a registered voter in Anchorage and I'm a supporter of the Alaska chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America/Everytown for Gun Safety. They are a grassroots movement of Americans fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and protect people from gun violence. They campaign for strong solutions to lax gun laws that put the safety of our families and communities at risk.

I'm writing today to oppose SB 174, which would force the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska to allow guns on campus. This is a dangerous and un-necessary bill. I am a friend of Chelan Scheifels whose daughter Caia Delavergne was shot in the head at a home in downtown Anchorage October 23, 2015. She jumped out of a second floor window to escape from her shooter. It is by the grace of God that she is alive to continue with her life, minus her left eye. I am an RN that has worked for many years in one of the largest Emergency Departments in Anchorage. There are too many times I have watched families grieve over the damage done to their family members by guns and other weapons. This must stop! I believe that this bill will not pass. I know you will make the right decision.

Campus police chiefs, college presidents, college faculty and 79% of students do not want concealed guns on their campuses. This dangerous bill would put our University campuses at risk by inserting guns into the equation. We should listen to their voices of reason and vote no on this bill. I thank you for taking the time to read this email and vote NO on SB 174.

Sincerely,

Mo Haddock

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Megan Byers <megancbyers@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 02, 2016 8:32 AM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire  
**Subject:** SB 174

Dear Senator McGuire and the members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Megan Byers and I'm a supporter of the Alaska chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America/Everytown for Gun Safety. We are a grassroots movement of Americans fighting for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and protect people from gun violence. We campaign for strong solutions to lax gun laws that put the safety of our families and communities at risk.

I am writing today to oppose SB 174, which would force the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska to allow guns on campus. This is a dangerous and un-necessary bill. I am a graduate from the University of Alaska Anchorage, and I am also an aunt to the survivor of gun violence. I hope that nobody goes through my niece and my family went through during that traumatic time.

Campus police chiefs, college presidents, college faculty and 79% of students do not want concealed guns on their campuses. This dangerous bill would put our University campuses at risk by inserting guns into the equation.

We should listen to their voices of reason and vote no on this bill.

Sincerely,

Megan Byers

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Jacqueline Horner <bounce@list.everytown.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2016 11:47 AM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire  
**Subject:** Jacqueline in Anchorage: Guns on campus? Not in Alaska

Dear Sen. McGuire,

**I'm writing to ask you to vote NO on SB 174**, a dangerous bill that would force Alaska's colleges and universities to allow guns on their campuses.

Alaska's public universities already allow qualified security officials and certain law enforcement officers to carry firearms on campuses -- and there's no evidence that letting kids bring handguns to class makes anyone any safer.

The majority of campus police chiefs, college presidents, students and faculty oppose this legislation. Alaska will be one of the only states in the country with such a dangerous policy.

Allowing guns on campus is not only a dangerous choice, it's an expensive one. Schools in states with these policies have seen their security and insurance costs skyrocket.

**I hope you will take a stand for public safety and vote NO on SB 174.**

Thank you,

Jacqueline Horner  
6361 Nielsen Way  
Anchorage, AK  
jdwhorner@gmail.com

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Michael Byers <mkbyers34@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 02, 2016 6:06 AM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. John Coghill; Rep. Geran Tarr; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Johnny Ellis; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Bill Wielechowski  
**Subject:** SB174

Thank you to the members of the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to submit my testimony on Bill SB 174.

My name is Mike Byers I am a lifelong Alaskan and a graduate of UAA. I graduated in 2002 with a BS in Civil Engineering.

The good intentions of this bill will allow aggressive gun owners the ability to brandish guns on university property without penalty. This will make the on campus troopers unable to remove any one who is carrying a weapon on campus. I believe that this will lead to a major incident on campus.

The current law offers a significant and effective deterrent to all who may bring a gun to the school. Removal of this deterrent will effectively give the green light to anyone who wishes to brandish a weapon at the school with no penalty. This deterrent must be kept in place. Guns have no place at the University with the exception of law enforcement.

The psychological effects of this bill will be damaging and far reaching. This bill creates a hostile environment by allowing radical people the right to expressing themselves with their weapons with out penalty. This is not a good environment for learning or working. This Bill undermines law enforcement by promoting vigilante justice.

The University is going to loose many of their many of their best professors and other personnel if Bill SB 174 passes.

Today, you have the power to determine the fate of SB 174, a bill that would force the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska to allow guns on campus.

I know firsthand the dangerous consequences of a gun in the wrong hands. My step-daughter, Caia Delavergne, was shot in the head by an acquaintance she made this past fall while she was a student at the University of Alaska – Anchorage. Thankfully, my daughter survived and will make a full recovery minus her left eye, but on October 23, 2015 – the day she was shot -- my life changed forever. Thankfully, my daughter is still here today – but too many other Americans are not. Caia was able to return to classes just 5 weeks after she was shot. But if there were guns allowed on campus she would not have made that brave decision as her post-traumatic stress would have been too great to allow her to return. Campuses should be a safe place for all students and faculty; if SB 174 is passed Caia and I will not feel safe to attend classes and events at the University.

If passed, Alaska would join the ranks of only two other states that currently force colleges to allow all permit holders to carry guns on campus, and six others that require guns to be allowed in limited circumstances. The reason that most states don't have these laws on the books is because it's a dangerous policy. This is echoed by the very community responsible for maintaining public safety – University police chiefs – 89% of University police chiefs oppose policies that allow guns on campus. It is also echoed by the student community -- seventy-

nine percent of whom said that they would not feel safe if faculty, students or visitors were allowed to bring concealed guns on campus. My daughter is part of that 79%.

Law enforcement, our college administrators, and the student body all know far better than anyone that allowing guns on college campus won't make students safer. Adding guns on our college campuses – where there is often a mix of alcohol, drug use, and highly stressful situations -- goes against common sense.

This dangerous bill would put our University students and staff at risk. I urge the committee to vote no on SB 174.

Thank you.

Sincerely a concerned father and citizen , Mike Byers



## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** POMS@akleg.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 18, 2016 12:54 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire  
**Subject:** New Pom:SB 174 Reg. Of Firearms/knives By Univ. Of Ak

Page Brannon  
9523 Victor Rd

Anchorage 99515,pbrannon  
plbrannon@uaa.alaska.edu  
9077861873  
9077861873

Weapons are counter-productive to good classroom discussion. Imagine you're a professor guiding students through a difficult dialogue on a controversial topic in class. one or more students comment on the weapons in their bag. quiet falls over the classroom, discussion over. class may as well be dismissed.

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** paul <pshunter@gci.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 14, 2016 7:10 PM  
**To:** Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Dennis Egan; Sen. Johnny Ellis; Sen. Berta Gardner; Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Charlie Huggins; Sen. Pete Kelly; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Kevin Meyer; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Gary Stevens; Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Bill Wielechowski  
**Subject:** FW: SB 174

I think I have a much better, and simpler, idea as an alternative to SB 174. The nerve of the University to blatantly defy State law and, as a reward, get a new law just for them that is more restrictive than existing law which is already applicable to them

**From:** paul [mailto:pshunter@gci.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 14, 2016 7:06 PM  
**To:** 'Senator.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov'  
**Subject:** SB 174

Not only do I not see a need for SB 174, I believe that this law sets a precedent that approves the idea of a State agency ignoring existing State law and pressuring the Legislature to carve out an exception for them. By prohibiting open carry on University property (yes, I carry concealed) SB 174 is allowing for a restriction which does not exist relative to any other State property (except for very limited exceptions such as court buildings and the restricted areas in airports).

Rather than allowing the University of Alaska to ignore the State Constitution and accompanying law why not simply make it simple and introduce clarity to them. Why not a clarifying law that states the University is a political subdivision of the State and, as such, must comply with State law in that they cannot have any policy which is more restrictive than State laws relative to firearms.

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Robin Smith <ericrobin@alaska.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 15, 2016 2:01 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire  
**Subject:** Oppose SB174

I am deeply disappointed that you are co-sponsoring this bill. Guns have no place at Universities. I do not know why you would even consider it particularly when you don't allow guns in the legislative buildings. It is hypocritical.

Your priority needs to be our fiscal crisis. Funding our government is the work that Alaskans want to see done. Please do not get distracted with other bills. The Senate should focus!!!

Sincerely, Robin Smith

## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Russ Newell <mrfreeze\_ak@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 14, 2016 1:40 PM  
**To:** Sen. Gary Stevens; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mia Costello; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Dennis Egan; Sen. Johnny Ellis; Sen. Berta Gardner; Sen. Cathy Giessel; Sen. Lyman Hoffman; Sen. Anna MacKinnon; Sen. Lesil McGuire; Sen. Kevin Meyer; Sen. Peter Micciche; Sen. Donny Olson; Sen. Bert Stedman; Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. Bill Wielechowski  
**Cc:** marizk@alaska.edu; ua.president@alaska.edu; dlmilke@alaska.edu  
**Subject:** Against SB 174 - please do not force guns onto the University's campuses

I am Russ Newell, at 1832 Loose Moose Loop, North Pole, AK. I am an alumni of the University of Alaska with a Masters of Business Administration. I am writing against the proposed Senate Bill 174 to allow guns in the Statewide University campuses.

The Utah legislators passed such a law. As such, Utah State University allows guns on campus. In 2014, that university became a national embarrassment/laughingstock when a scheduled visiting lecturer cancelled in the face of specific death threats. The local police said that the law prevented them from keeping guns out of the lecture area where the speaker was threatened to be shot dead if she gave her talk. The threats also mentioned mass murder. The police were hamstrung by the Utah legislators from protecting the speaker and the public. The invited lecturer never left the Salt Lake City airport and fled in fear.

Is this what Alaska's legislators want for the State of Alaska? And why do this in times of fiscal crisis?

The Utah State story not only made the front page of the New York Times. This story made the cover of Business Week, the cover of Rolling Stone, and was in many other national publications. I have included the Business Week, New York Times, and Rolling Stone links below as well as other. Please read about Utah's experience. Ask yourselves if you want to embarrass the State and the University by passing such legislation. Had the invited speaker given the talk and been killed, the blood would have been on the hands of the Utah legislators.

This is the cover story of Business Week.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/bw/articles/2014-11-26/anita-sarkeesian-battles-sexism-in-games-gamergate-harassment>

The first two paragraphs read:

"One night in October, before the media critic Anita Sarkeesian was scheduled to give a speech at Utah State University, someone e-mailed the school, threatening to commit mass murder. "This will be the deadliest school shooting in American history, and I'm giving you a chance to stop it," the message read. "I have at my disposal a semiautomatic rifle, multiple pistols, and a collection of pipe bombs," it went on. "I will write my manifesto in her spilled blood, and you will all bear witness to what feminist lies and poison have done to the men of America." The message mentioned Marc Lépine, a man who shot and killed 14 women at an engineering college in Montreal in 1989 before killing himself.

"Sarkeesian had been invited by the university's Center for Women and Gender to give a talk about sexism in the video game industry, which has lately become the kind of topic that generates death threats, in large part

because of Sarkeesian's work. As her plane made its way toward Salt Lake City, school officials quickly discussed the e-mail with police and decided it was safe for the talk to go on—it wasn't the first time someone had promised to create havoc at one of her appearances, they reasoned, and nothing too terrible had happened before. The "terror threat," as it was called, was reported in a local newspaper, and Sarkeesian learned about it after she got off the plane and checked Twitter. Her friends were e-mailing: "Are you OK?" She was too scared to leave the airport and called the school. After learning that the event staff couldn't screen for weapons because of Utah's concealed-carry laws, she canceled her talk, got back on a plane, and returned to California."

The New York Times front page article is here:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/10/16/technology/gamergate-women-video-game-threats-anita-sarkeesian.html>

The Rolling Stone cover story is here:

<http://www.rollingstone.com/culture/features/anita-sarkeesian-gamergate-interview-20141017>

The response of the main Mormon newspaper in Utah is here:

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865613500/Utah-gun-law-that-canceled-USU-speech-is-an-embarrassment.html>

Here is CBS News:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/gamergate-guns-and-threats-against-women-collide-in-utah/>

Here are some articles from the Salt Lake Tribune:

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/58528113-78/sarkeesian-threats-threat-usu.html.csp>

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/58521856-78/sarkeesian-usu-video-feminist.html.csp>

<http://www.sltrib.com/blogs/stateofdebate/1709935-155/utah-sarkeesian-threat-anita-feminist-cancels>

<http://www.sltrib.com/home/1734484-155/utah-gun-law-sarkeesian-speech-amend>

Here is the Guardian:

<http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2014/oct/22/utah-state-university-defends-handling-gamergate-anita-sarkeesian-threat>

And some other salient links on the Utah State University example:

<http://www.standard.net/Our-View/2014/10/20/Our-View-Amend-Utah-s-gun-law.html>

[http://www.salon.com/2014/10/15/when\\_gun\\_rights\\_trump\\_public\\_safety](http://www.salon.com/2014/10/15/when_gun_rights_trump_public_safety)

<http://aattp.org/feminist-cancels-speech-after-threats-because-open-carry-laws-make-it-impossible-for-police-to-protect-her/>

Do we want the University of Alaska to be in the same position as Utah State University? As an alumnus, I do not. I would hope the Alaska Senate and House view the state's university campuses as a place of learning for our youths and not a place to embarrass our state nationally over petty politics as has happened in Utah.

Senator Lesil McGuire  
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee  
State Capitol Room 121  
Juneau Alaska, 99801

February 17, 2016

Senator Mike Dunleavy  
Chair, Senate Education Committee  
State Capitol Room 11  
Juneau Alaska, 99801

Dear Senators McGuire and Dunleavy:

I am writing in regards to SB 174 to allow guns on UA campuses. I strongly **oppose** this bill. My opposition comes from years of research in my field of social psychology that scientifically shows a direct effect between the mere presence of guns and aggressive behavior, thoughts, and on violent norm formation. In addition, personally, as an academic committed to student learning and growth in safe environments I cannot support this bill. I am an assistant professor at the University of Alaska Southeast. I have been at UAS 2011, and came from the University of Kansas where I obtained my PhD in psychology. I outline my reasoning for my opposing below.

In my field of social psychology the phenomenon of the weapons effect has been studied for quite some time (original work by Berkowitz and LePage, 1967). The weapons effect is the idea that the mere presence of weapons (or knowledge that they are there) leads to increased aggressive behavior and thoughts. This is a well-documented effect, in which I urge you to consider. *As leaders and authority figures we should be using data to drive our ideas and arguments, not opinions.* There is data here and it states that allowing weapons will *not* increase safety, but instead it will do just the opposite—it will increase aggression especially for those who are already aroused. The mere presence of weapons does not only directly influence aggressive behavior and thoughts, but it creates a normative environment that condones violence (guns are automatically and implicitly associated with violence for Americans) and states that our campuses are a places in which you need to carry a gun—a place where you are not safe.

In addition, to the well-documented scientific research that states the mere presence weapons increase aggressiveness, I urge you to consider the environment to which this bill would be applied. A campus environment is a place where young adults (and often students under 18) are learning for the first time how to navigate life on their own and find their identities. Their boundaries of thought are being challenged, they often fail for the first time, and importantly are under high levels of stress (again often for the first time). While typically, universities are safe places, it is the case that often students push the boundaries of respect and safety for their peers, faculty, and staff. Recently, I personally experienced an incident in which I was fearful of a student. This student had not encountered a course like mine before, and was overwhelmed with the workload. The

student did not agree with much of content, and while doing extremely well in the class, the student became increasingly aggravated, erratic and ultimately aggressive with me and other students. To add a layer to this scenario the student deals with mental health issues. Unfortunately, while non-normative (i.e., the average student does not behave this way), this happens regularly. I reported the situation to all the relevant sources, we worked together as best we could, and tried to get the student support (which was ultimately refused by the student). While many may think we can just expel students in these situations—it is not that easy. Often these situations are somewhat ambiguous. For example, perhaps given the students mental health issues they just did not understand the social situation or their behavior. Does it make sense to kick them out and deny them an education, etc.? The point is, giving access to guns does *not* increase safety, it makes situations like this even more dangerous. It creates an environment where this student is allowed to bring a gun to class, even if he or she does not plan on using it. But what happens on the day that the student is particularly aggravated? Note, that the experience I laid out above is an extreme one, however, what is more normative is for students to get quite angry about a grade, or style of teaching, or a conversation we have had in class. Allowing guns only allows these situations to potentially get out of hand.

A university is a place for growth and learning. It relies on a climate that fosters mutual respect and trust for its community members. Please note that I am not against the right to own a gun. My husband and I in fact own guns and carry them when we hike and camp. This is about the environment that I work in. Guns are not allowed in government buildings because of potential threats, and these very reasons apply to universities. I urge you to seriously consider the scientific data that do not support this bill, and also importantly to listen to those of us that work and live in this educational space. We know what is best for our community—please let us make that decision.

I thank you for your time and consideration.



Amanda K. Sesko, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor, Psychology  
University of Alaska Southeast  
11120 Glacier Hwy.  
Juneau AK, 99801  
Office: 216 Soboleff  
Email: aksesko@uas.alaska.edu  
Phone: 907-796-7636



## Forrest Wolfe

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**From:** Sigrid Brudie <sigrid.brudie@acsalaska.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2016 7:29 PM  
**To:** Sen. Lesil McGuire  
**Subject:** SB 174

Senator McGuire,

SB 174—allowing concealed weapons on university property—is truly frightening. I work at UAA, and as school and campus shootings become more common across the nation I have started to worry about my personal safety to an extent. However, if everyone around me at my workplace were allowed to pack a concealed weapon my worry would escalate to where I would not feel safe at all, ever. Universities should be safe places, and It's preposterous and irresponsible to suggest that guns will make universities safer.

Please reconsider your sponsorship of this troublesome bill.

Sigrid Brudie, Anchorage