



CHRIS BURBANK
CHIEF OF POLICE

SALT LAKE CITY CORPORATION
POLICE DEPARTMENT



RALPH BECKER
MAYOR

March 13, 2013

Governor Gary Herbert
350 North State Street, Suite 200
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-2220

Dear Governor Herbert,

I am writing to urge you to veto HB 76 – *Concealed Weapon Carry Amendment*. HB 76 represents a dramatic change in Utah's concealed carry permit process that has been fair for the public, public safety and concealed carry permit holders.

The current process to obtain a concealed firearm permit under Utah Code Ann. 53-5-704 & 705 requires screening of a person to make sure the person has not been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of violence other than domestic violence, an offense involving the use of alcohol, or a misdemeanor offense involving moral turpitude.

Additionally, a person may be disqualified from a permit for behavior demonstrating a danger to himself or others by a past pattern of behavior involving unlawful violence, threats of unlawful violence, or misdemeanor violations of state weapons laws. HB 76 would allow any person over the age of 21 to carry a concealed firearm regardless of any history of this type of behavior or conviction.

Current law allows a person with a concealed firearm permit to carry a loaded firearm concealed or openly. A person who does not possess a concealed firearm permit may still openly carry an unloaded firearm. If HB 76 is not vetoed, any person who is 21 years of age or older who may lawfully possess a dangerous weapon may carry a loaded firearm openly or concealed.

The potential enactment of HB 76 hinders the ability of public safety officers to respond to and protect the citizens we serve.

Sincerely,

Chris Burbank
Chief of Police
Salt Lake City Police Department