

Dear Chairman Grad, Vice Chair Burditt, and Members of the VT House Judiciary Committee,

Much has been written to stress to you that firearm waiting period legislation for the purpose of preventing suicides will not meet expectations. Further, such legislation will certainly put people at risk, including women in domestic violence situations who may need to acquire a firearm without delay to ensure their safety.

Self Defense can not be compromised.

Nor can the deterrent effect of firearms be minimized. This is especially important, as deterrence most often precludes the need to either show or use a firearm.

Please refer to the two True North Reports links, below, which expand on these points.

One is by Chris Bradley. The second was written by myself.

<http://truenorthreports.com/chris-bradley-waiting-periods-for-gun-purchases-will-not-work>

<http://truenorthreports.com/suicides-not-prevented-by-firearm-purchase-with-waiting-period>

Last, the features of S.169 which eliminate firearm magazine capacity restrictions are important.

No one can predetermine one's need for a firearm without advanced knowledge of the scenario they will confront. This includes choice of firearm, ammunition, magazine capacity, etc.

Only the person(s) facing mortal danger are fit to make such a determination. Otherwise arbitrary and capricious factors are being injected into an equation, decisions which should only be made by the principals. It is improper to restrict self defense measures for law abiding people.

Thank you very much,

Very sincerely,  
Jeffrey Kaufman, MD  
Burlington, VT