

A JOINT RESOLUTION urging the Governor of Virginia and the Virginia Attorney General to restore reciprocal recognition of concealed carry weapons licenses from Kentucky.

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia recently decided to cease recognition of concealed deadly weapon licenses from Kentucky and 24 other states; and

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution provides, "the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed"; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled in *District of Columbia v. Heller* and *McDonald v. City of Chicago, Illinois* to affirm the right of the people to keep and bear arms as specified by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the right to self-defense and defense of others from imminent deadly threats is the most fundamental of human rights; and

WHEREAS, carrying a concealed deadly weapon provides the potential ability to defend one's self and others in a society increasingly beset by deadly violence that may occur at any place or time; and

WHEREAS, there is no evidence that suspending the concealed weapons reciprocity agreement between Kentucky and Virginia would reduce crime or increase public safety in any manner; and

WHEREAS, there were no particular concealed carry weapons violations involving Kentucky residents which preceded the decision to end recognition of Kentucky's licenses; and

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of Kentuckians peacefully travel to Virginia for employment, commerce, tourism, and a variety of other pursuits; and

WHEREAS, equal numbers of Virginians also enter into Kentucky's borders for their own peaceful pursuits; and

WHEREAS, by choosing not to recognize concealed carry weapons licenses from

Kentucky, Virginia is putting the lives and property of Kentucky's law-abiding citizens in danger; and

WHEREAS, the failure to recognize a reciprocal agreement with Kentucky means that the citizens of Virginia who travel to Kentucky are equally endangered by no longer having the ability to legally carry concealed weapons while in Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, the result of ending reciprocity agreements between our states is that tens of thousands of citizens of each state are denied their rights and the tools with which to protect all people;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. The Virginia Attorney General and the Governor of Virginia are urged to return to reciprocal recognition of all concealed carry licenses issued by the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to send copies of this Resolution to the Virginia Attorney General and the Governor of Virginia.