

Monday, January 30th, 2012

Chairman Brunk and members of the House Federal and State Affairs Committee,

My name is Aaron Miller, and I live in Sedgwick County. I could not travel there today because of work obligations. I am a Deputy with the Sedgwick County Sheriff Department, but I am also an avid hunter. I am a great hunter and obey all the laws and regulations.

I want to exercise my right to protect myself during my hunting activities. The current regulations restrict this right, even though I am law enforcement. I believe making me disarm makes me vulnerable. In the line of work that I am in, I get multiple threats every day. I accept that fact as part of my job. Law enforcement officers should not have to give up their handgun to go hunting or fishing as the laws are now making us. Thanks to the Kansas Legislature for passing a good law last year that allows Conceal Carry Handgun permit holders to defend themselves while hunting and fishing. I went out and received my Concealed Carry Permit as a result of that law. I believe all lawful owners of handguns should have that same right to protect themselves while hunting and fishing. I should not have to become a Conceal Carry Permit holder to carry a handgun while hunting or fishing because Kansas Constitution clearly gives me this right. Obtaining a Conceal Carry Permit is a burden and is unnecessary especially in rural settings. The Concealed Carry law was a way to compensate for municipalities that create restrictive ordinances. The state of Kansas rightfully does not have such a restriction, that is unless you are hunting or fishing. This needs to change!

I think it is a good idea for hunters and fisherman to have the right to open carry. I know for me, I run into someone that has been arrested or made threats against me on a daily basis. Hunting is no problem to me since I am carrying a weapon already and know how to use it thanks to the CCH laws. I believe that if hunters and fishers were allowed to open carry, they will not have problems if they arise.

Thank you for considering this important legislation.

Please support and pass HB2491.

You may contact me with questions.

Aaron Miller

3132 S Chase Ave

Wichita, Kansas 67217

903-374-1006

admiller@sedgwick.gov