

SPECIAL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

**AGENDA**

February 19, 2013

Committee Chairperson Lawrence called the meeting to order at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

Public Safety Committee Members: Chairperson Lawrence; Legislators Martinez, Handel, Hatton, Kozloski and H. Lennon.

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**AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. Proposed Resolution "Calling For Repeal Of The Enactment Of The New York SAFE Act."
2. Proposed Resolution "In Opposition To Proposed Legislation Requiring Gun Owners To Obtain Liability Insurance."

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February 20, 2013

RESOLUTION NO.

CALLING FOR REPEAL OF THE ENACTMENT OF  
THE NEW YORK SAFE ACT

Legislator offered the following resolution  
and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the right of the people to keep and bear arms is guaranteed as an individual right under the second amendment of the United States Constitution and that this right is regarded as an inalienable right of the people of Greene County; and

WHEREAS, the lawful ownership and use of firearms is, and has been, a valued tradition in Greene County and that the right to bear arms is exercised by many Greene County residents for which the County of Greene derives economic and environmental benefits from safe forms of recreation involving firearms which includes hunting and target shooting; and

WHEREAS, our New York State representatives could not and did not have the time to request and receive the input of their constituents regarding this matter which is the standard by which the Greene County Legislature holds itself to when it comes to the enactment of such a controversial law and is a matter of simple due process; and

WHEREAS, the crafting of the New York SAFE Act resulted in complex policy changes, many subject to interpretation and are confusing to a vast number of public officials as well as the law enforcement officials who are required to enforce and explain them; and

WHEREAS, there is the potential of a significant financial impact on Greene County which will result due to sections of the Act which will require additional manpower and computer systems, as well as the tax share our residents will have to contribute if the proposed 2013-2014 budget spending of \$36 million dollars for the implementation of the New York SAFE Act is enacted, at a time when all New York State residents are asking for tax relief; and

WHEREAS, in our opinion, there was no reason for the Governor to use a message of necessity to bring this bill to vote immediately and bypass the three day maturing process for all legislation; and

WHEREAS, requiring law-abiding gun owners to verify ownership of certain types of firearms every five years, in addition to registering them on their permits, which now also must be renewed every 5 years, does not increase the safety of the public and is unnecessarily burdensome to the residents of New York State; and

WHEREAS, the only persons who will comply with the new high-capacity magazine ban are law-abiding citizens, leaving the same high-capacity magazines in the hands of those who choose not to obey the law; and



February 20, 2013

RESOLUTION NO.

IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED LEGISLATION REQUIRING GUN OWNERS TO OBTAIN LIABILITY INSURANCE

Legislator offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, there is currently pending in the NYS Assembly Bill No. AD3908 which will require owners of firearms to obtain liability insurance in an amount not less than \$1 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, said proposed legislation has been referred to the Assembly Legislative Committee on Insurance; and

WHEREAS, this proposed legislation constitutes nothing more than a back door attempt to prohibit legal gun ownership in this State; and

WHEREAS, such mandatory insurance coverage would accomplish nothing more than to burden responsible, law abiding taxpayers while doing nothing to prevent the perpetrators of criminal acts involving guns; and

WHEREAS, it is constitutionally impermissible to require citizens to obtain liability insurance to exercise their rights under the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment; and

WHEREAS, the only predictable outcome of the passage of this law is an increase in profits to insurance companies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Greene hereby strongly opposes any attempt to mandate gun owners to buy liability insurance; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Greene County Legislature requests the members of the New York State Senate and Assembly who represent all, or part of, Greene County to reply, in writing, with their views on, and actions taken, in support of, or opposition to the proposed gun insurance bill; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Andrew Cuomo; Senator Dean Skelos; Senator Cecilia Tkaczyk; Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver; Assemblyman Peter Lopez; Assemblyman Steven McLaughlin; Assemblyman Felix Ortiz and the New York State Association of Counties.

Seconded by Legislator

Ayes          Noes          Absent          CARRIED.

Approved by Public Safety Comm.: