Colorado Legislature Update

The status (as of March 1, 2007) of bills of interest to gun owners that have been introduced in the Colorado General Assembly are:

Bad bills:

(1) Senate Bill 07-034 which would prohibit concealed carry in Colorado with a permit issued by another state to a non-resident of that state. Status: Passed out of the Senate. Was amended by Republicans to make it a good bill, but amendments were removed by Senate. Currently in House assigned to the Judiciary Committee.

(2) House Bill 07-1174 would allow sheriffs to add concealed carry permit holders to the statewide CCIC database. The CCIC database is used to store information on criminals. Status: Passed out of the House. Currently in Senate assigned to the Judiciary Committee.

(3) Senate Bill 07-109 adds a $15 fee for running a background check when purchasing a firearm (currently there is no fee). Status: Passed out of Senate Judiciary Committee to Appropriations Committee.

(4) House Bill 07-1278 would allow cities of population of 100,000 or more to prohibit carrying of a loaded handgun in the passenger compartment of a vehicle without a concealed carry permit (currently we are permitted to carry a handgun, open or concealed, in a vehicle without a permit). Status: Assigned to the House Judiciary Committee where it was killed (a good thing).

Good bills:

(1) Senate Bill 07-069 would prohibit a statewide database containing information on concealed carry permit holders (just the opposite from HB 07-1174). Status: Assigned to Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs committee where it was killed.

(2) House Bill 07-1011 strengthens the “Make My Day” law and adds vehicles and places of business where you can use deadly force. Status: Amended to remove vehicles in House. Passed to the Senate and assigned to Senate Committee on State, Veterans & Military Affairs where it was killed.

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All the good bills have been killed. There are still three bad bills alive. We need to contact our legislators and ask them to do whatever they can to get these bad bills killed.

You can get the latest status of a bill and read the text of a bill on the PPFC website.

**PPFC Political Action Committee Update**

The PPFC Political Action Committee voted to endorse PPFC past-president and current treasurer Bernie Herpin for an at-large seat on the Colorado Springs City Council in the April 3, 2007 election. Bernie was appointed last March to complete the term of Richard Skorman. PPFC members are encourage to provide whatever support they can to help get Bernie elected. Make sure you and your family and friends vote for Bernie. This will be a mail-only election and ballots will be mailed out in mid-March. If you would like to contribute to Bernie’s campaign, please see his website where you can make an on-line donation or print out a form to mail him a contribution. The PPFC PAC Steering Committee voted to give Bernie’s campaign $500 for our PAC fund. If you would like to put out yard signs, you can pick them up at Paradise Sales, 605 W Colorado Ave. Bernie has a permit that allows signs in the city right of way. You can call Bernie at 596-3921 or e-mail at Bernie@herpins.com to have someone drop off signs at your home.

**PPFC March Meeting**

The March 8th PPFC meeting will feature a talk by our own Paul Paradis, the Colorado state public defenders office’s firearms expert. Paul will be giving an interesting talk on firearm forensics.

**PPFC DUES**

Please send in your 2007 dues ($20 individual, $30 family). You can also pay at the March meeting. If you have not paid you dues, this will be the last newsletter you will receive. Help save us money by not having to send you a renewal notice. We have already seen more gun control from the Colorado General Assembly. We must remain strong to better speak up on our rights. We also need to maintain a strong pro-gun City Council. You are urged to get out and work for those city council candidates who support our right to keep and bear arms. After the PAC endorses candidates, please provide whatever support you can. You can help place yard signs, host a coffee in your home, send a check.