

A well regulated Militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed. --Amendment II, US Constitution



The right of no person to keep and bear arms in defense of his home, person and property, or in aid of the civil power when thereto legally summoned, shall be called to question; . . . --Article II, § 13, Colorado Constitution

The Voice for Firearm Rights in the Pikes Peak Region

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Our rights are under attack in Colorado Legislature

The Democrats have wasted no time in attacking our rights in the Colorado legislature.

They are once again trying to turn lawful gun owners into criminals when a minor breaks into your house, steals a gun, and either uses the gun to harm him/herself or another or takes it to school. **Senate Bill 08-049**, by anti-gun Senator Windels (D), mandates “safe storage” for all firearms. This will, in effect, prevent a lawful gun owner from keeping a firearm readily available to protect his/herself and their family. In the recent home invasion case in Fountain where the home owner used a shotgun to shoot two invaders, both armed with guns, the result may have been very different if that home owner wasn’t able to have a loaded shotgun ready because a minor “might” take it, without the owner even knowing about it and use it. We have seen several cases here in the Pikes Peak region where armed home owners have defended themselves against rapists and home invaders. The author of this bill claims this will help prevent teenaged suicides (“it’s for the children”), but there is no evidence that this will prevent even one suicide since someone determined to take their life will find a way. This bill is currently waiting a hearing in the Senate Sate, Veterans, and Military Affairs committee.

House Bill 08-1069, by Representative Curry (D) and Senator Tochtrop (D), will prohibit motorized vehicles on any public land that is not specifically marked (by signs and maps) for motorized vehicle use. While not strictly an anti-gun bill, it will hamper hunting activities and recreational motorbike and ATV use.

Likewise, **House Bill 08-1096**, by Representative Stafford (D), prohibits hunting of any mammal that is enclosed in a fenced area, no matter how large the area! There aren’t very many hunting areas in the state that aren’t fenced. This would prevent, for example, a farmer from allowing friends to shoot prairie dogs on his property or to hunt rabbits. This will devastate Colorado’s hunting industry and cost the state and businesses millions of dollars!

A bill that was introduced by a pro-gun rights Republican, Representative James Kerr, could have unintended consequences. **House Bill 08-1190** will change the current hours that the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) must be available to run background checks from 12 hours every day (except Thanksgiving and Christmas) to 10:00am to 9:00pm on Monday through Saturday and “normal retail business hours” (not defined) on Sunday. The stated purpose is good to allow CBI to adjust its staffing to accommodate busier times (not many FFLs will be running checks, for example, after 6pm on Sunday). The problem with this

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **February 14, 2008: PPF Membership Meeting**
- **February 21, 2008: PPF Board Meeting**

PPFC Officers

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SecretaryAmy Mullaney
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PIKES PEAK FIREARMS COALITION, INC.
PO BOX 17253
COLORADO SPRINGS CO 80935-7253

info@ppfc.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.PPFC.ORG

Next PPFC Meeting
Thursday, February 14, 2008
VFW Post 4051
430 E Pikes Peak Ave
Colorado Springs CO
7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Colorado Springs, CO
PERMIT NO. 1061

bill is not defining what "normal retail business hours" are on Sunday. A bureaucrat could define this as "noon to 4pm" for example which would greatly impact gun shows. The Sunday hours need to be spelled out in the bill. If this were done, this would improve the speed of background checks as long as CBI didn't use the reduced hours to eliminate some personnel.

There is one good bill, **House Bill 08-1066**, similar to that shot down by Democrats last session, that would extend the "make my day" law to a place of business. While a person can use deadly force to defend themselves when faced with the possibility of serious bodily harm or death, the self-defense rule is subject to judicial review and the criminal, or their family, can bring civil action against the victim. By extending the protect of the make my day law to a person's place of business, criminals are prevented from suing and the victim cannot be charged if it is determined that they acted in accordance with this law.

The current status of these, and any other bills which may impact our gun rights, can be found on the PPFC website, www.ppfc.org, along with the text of the bills. There is also links to the calendars and journals for the General Assembly as well as contact information for all legislators.

5th Congressional Republican Candidate Forum

We have invited the three current Republican candidates for the 5th Congressional seat to participate in a candidate forum at our February 14th (yes, we know it's Valentine's Day) meeting. As of this printing, Jeff Crank has accepted. We are waiting on responses from Rep. Doug Lamborn and Bentley Rayburn. You can get 2008 election candidate information on the PPFC website under "2008 Elections".

PPFC PAC Steering Committee Endorsement

The PPFC PAC Steering Committee endorsed PPFC member Amy Lathen for appointment to the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners to fill the vacancy left by Rep Douglas Bruce who was appointed to the Colorado House District 15 seat. Amy was selected by the CD2 vacancy committee and was sworn in on January 31st. She will also be running for the office this November.

PPFC Small Donor Committee

Thanks to our members, we raised \$2,212 in 2007 for the PPFC Small Donor Committee and have also received \$781 so far for 2008! We will be putting this money to good use this campaign season. Also, it is time to renew your PPFC membership. You should have received a renewal notice in the mail in early December. Please send it in or bring to the February meeting. Thanks!!

Earn Cash for the PPFC just by searching the Internet!

The PPFC is now a listed charity on the new search engine www.goodsearch.com. Using this search engine (instead of Google or Yahoo) and entering "Pikes Peak Firearms Coalition" as your charity will result in us getting a donation for each search. You can also use this site for on-line purchases which will support us. Click on the GoodSearch link on the PPFC homepage for more info and how to make GoodSearch your default search engine.