



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2018

House of Representatives

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PIKES PEAK FIREARMS COALITION OF COLORADO

HON. DOUG LAMBORN
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2018

Mr. LAMBORN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 25th anniversary of the Pikes Peak Firearms Coalition of Colorado, a leading voice for firearms rights in my congressional district. The organization's purpose is to advocate, support, and protect the right to keep and bear arms as enumerated in the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and Article II, Section 13 of the Colorado Constitution, and to promote the safe, responsible, and lawful use of firearms.

Initially formed in 1992 as the Colorado Springs Chapter of the Firearms Coalition of Colorado, in 1993 the group formed their own local organization as the Pikes Peak Firearms Coalition and incorporated as a Colorado non-profit. Since then, they have advocated for firearm rights before the Colorado Springs City Council, the El Paso County Board of Commissioners, and the Colorado General Assembly. The effect of their advocacy is far-reaching. They have sponsored groups that teach young people the safe handling and storage of firearms. Additionally, they provide financial support to local gun ranges including the Cheyenne Mountain Shooting Complex at Fort Carson and previously assisted in cleanup efforts for the U.S. Forest Service Rampart Range shooting area while it was in operation. In their monthly meetings, they promote the safe and lawful use of firearms. They invite speakers to present programs on various firearm issues, equipment, training, and techniques. Hundreds of people have benefitted from the Pikes Peak Firearms Coalition of Colorado's educational and practical approach.

At their core, Pikes Peak Firearm Coalition members believe that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to keep and bear arms in defense of their home, person, and property and to protect against a tyrannical government. Ultimately, they believe the firearms issue to be entwined with civil rights, and object to all anti-gun proposals which limit the ability of the elderly, the poor, the handicapped or other legally-armed citizens to defend themselves. Finally, they firmly believe that to control crime, we must focus on the perpetrator rather than his instrument. The irresponsible banning of a weapon based solely on emotion only serves to empower criminals, as law-abiding citizens, by definition, do not break the law.

I would like to offer my sincere congratulations on 25 years of advocacy to a group that upholds and protects the Second Amendment so well.