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Via Email: HouseJudiciary@rilegislature.gov

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Rhode Island House Judiciary

Chairman Representative Robert E. Craven,

RE: H-5654 Concealed Carry Licensing: Unattended Consequences of legislation / Against Passage

Dear Chairman Craven & fellow Committee members:

Removing the only state provision that regulates the legal parameters of non-residents to apply for a concealed carry permit is short sighted at best and invites illegal activity. Even the State of Massachusetts allows for non-residents to legally obtain a concealed carry permit. This bill will negatively affect non-residents and our fellow Rhode Island Residents that live in communities that either (a) don't offer concealed carry permits, or (b) face departments that are delinquent in acting in a timely manner where residents are forced to wait for a year or better before issuance of a license.

In addition, with Massachusetts sharing roadways with Rhode Island, this amendment will, in fact, cause deliberate needless agitation and confusion, resulting in the incarceration of law-abiding citizens. In the end, the amendment discriminates against the free will of passage of law-abiding citizens.

Therefore, with sound reason, I humbly ask the committee to reject Bill 5654 as ill-conceived.

Dean Lees, Jr.