

## North Carolina General Assembly House Of Representatives

REPRESENTATIVE KEITH KIDWELL 79TH DISTRICT

OFFICE: 2213 LEGISLATIVE BUILDING

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COMMERCE ENVIRONMENT FINANCE PENSIONS & RETIREMENT

REGULATORY REFORM

With the recent elections, the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and their God-given rights are coming under attack from their own government. To wit, there have been several bills introduced that would severely infringe on the average citizen's right to keep and bear arms. Assuredly the people of Virginia are as offended now as they were when Lord Dunmore confiscated the arms at Williamsburg.

This right is not one that is given by any government, but by our God, and protected under the United States Constitution in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, as well as in the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia in Section 13. Both of these documents state clearly that the "right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed". This has been upheld by the United States Supreme Court as being a right of the individual. It was clearly the intent of our founders and as evidenced by their inclusion. It was the belief of our founder that the citizens should have equal access to the same arms that the government does.

The Great State of North Carolina has in Article 1, Section 13 a Constitutional guarantee that reads the same. North Carolina and Virginia have stood together during and since the founding of our great nation. Today, the North Carolina House Republican Caucus attests to that long-established relationship by the signatures affixed below. The Caucus stands with Virginia, the Counties and Cities who have declared themselves 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Sanctuaries that will not permit a tyrannical government to restrict or infringe on those or any other rights. We also encourage the North Carolina counties who have passed or are considering similar resolutions or declarations to stand firm against any government that would seek to usurp the rights of the

Attested to this 14th Day of January 2020.

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