NRA

Legislative Fact Sheet

HB-845 Acevedo

OPPOSE

Wasting Resources Instead of Fighting Crime

- **Criminals Don't Follow the Law:** Proponents claim that this will deter straw purchases; that when a gun turns up at a crime, and it is traced back, they will have the opportunity to use a petty offense against an alleged straw purchaser to try and interrogate them. The real question is why don't they use the laws we passed against straw purchases which are felonies? Do they really think that a petty offense is going to threaten a criminal enterprise?

- **50% of guns traced in Illinois Come From Elsewhere:** Indiana and Mississippi are the leading states supplying guns traced by police. With criminals using phony IDs and trafficking firearms across state lines we need a comprehensive plan to attack these illicit pipelines. Not a feel-good law with a catch and release program like we saw with Carail Weeks.

- **Making Them Victims Again:** If a gun owner fails to report a lost or stolen firearm, then they are charged and forced to go to court for the failure to report a property crime. Then faced with revocation a constitutionally protected right for a petty offense.

- **Straw Purchases are Illegal:** Under both federal and state law, lying to buy a gun for someone prohibited from owning one is illegal. Illinois passed a law against straw purchases several years ago, in a effort to aid local prosecutors. It appears that some grandstanding States' Attorneys are more interested in feel-good legislation and press conferences than chasing down people trafficking in firearms.

- **Unconstitutional Taking of a Right:** HB-845 authorizes the revocation of a person's right to own a firearm for failure to report a property crime – theft, or no crime at all the loss of a firearm. Just months ago, the United States Supreme Court ruled:

> ***"Held: The Second Amendment protects an individual right to possess a firearm unconnected with service in a militia, and to use that arm for traditionally lawful purposes, such as self-defense within the home."***

HB-845's attempt to strip someone of their constitutional rights, without a felony conviction or other probative factor like mental illness, fails the guidelines put forth in the Heller decision.

- **Poor Use of Scarce Resources:** Requires costly, labor-intensive regulatory infrastructure to operate. Directs law-enforcement manpower and money towards regulating law-abiding citizens and away from investigating and apprehending criminal gun runners.

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