REQUESTED “NO” VOTE ON SB 1966 (REP. WILLIS)
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FAILS TO ADDRESS NEEDED FOID REFORMS
INCREASES BURDEN ON EXERCISING CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT

While portrayed as a fix to FOID process failures that led to the Aurora shooting, H.A. #1 and #2 to SB 1966 do little on that topic and go too far in other directions – disenfranchising law abiding citizens from exercising their constitutional rights to own a firearm.

FOID “PROCESS FAILURES” NOT ADDRESSED:

- Background check not sent through multiple law enforcement databases – not addressed.
- Individual lied about prior felony conviction on FOID & Conceal Carry applications, as well as on federal 4473 – not addressed.
- Law enforcement not mandated to share information, nor required to suspend/revoke FOID and remove firearms from ineligible citizen – not addressed.
- Federal & State criminal databases failed to communicate/share information with each other – not addressed.
- Overall defect: law-abiding citizens are penalized under this bill for the failure of government to properly enforce the law.

PRICES MANY LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS OUT OF EXERCISING A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT:

- Increases fee for FOID card to *minimum* of $100 (a 1000% increase):
  - $20 every 5 years, or $40 every 10 years (currently $10 for 10 years) – a 400% increase.
  - Mandates fingerprints for FOID – $30 added cost; mandated fee cap on private vendors.
  - New fee for “enhanced” ISP background check – minimum $30 added cost.
  - Allows ISP to charge unknown and uncapped fees for “processing costs” – still more costs.
- Mandates private firearm sales/transfers go through a licensed dealer; however, caps transfer fee at $10 without clear consideration of process costs – likely leading to an effective ban on all private sales/transfers of firearms and could lead to registry in future if gun dealers required to report sales to State.
- Moves FOID processing/approval from 30 calendar days to 30 business days – unnecessary 2-week delay in processing.
- Allows courts to order that firearms be surrendered to police, while restricting transfers between valid FOID card holders (including family members) – unnecessary confiscation.
- Such burdens/restrictions would never apply to a citizen’s constitutional right to vote or free speech.

EVERYONE SHOULD BE ABLE TO AGREE ON:

- Revised “clear and present danger” standard.
- Additional funding for mental health services.
- Clearer direction to courts/police on enforcement.

SB 1966 DOES NOTHING TO PREVENT
THOSE VIOLATING CURRENT LAW FROM ACCESSING FIREARMS