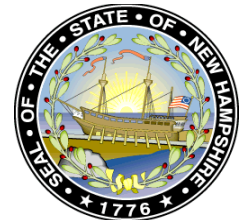


NEW HAMPSHIRE HOUSE REPUBLICAN ALLIANCE



NEWS RELEASE: For Immediate Release December 23, 2009

Contacts:

Representative Coffey 748-1985

Representative Hogan 883-5320

Representative Ingbretson 989-3092

Representative Smith 436-6865

LEGISLATIVE CHRISTMAS SURPRISE!

Concord-The House Democratic majority presented Republicans with a Christmas Surprise on Monday, when they sprung a new rule that banned all “dangerous weapons” from the State House and two other buildings used by the Legislature. The Joint Legislative Facilities Committee, at a meeting called for routine purposes, passed this rule on a party line vote, without the courtesy of informing Republicans on the Committee in advance. This continues what appears to be a pattern of forcing through their views with no regard for opposing input in much the same spirit as was undertaken in passing Governor Lynch’s new 5% Income Tax on LLC distributions during the waning hours of the ’09-’10 budget cycle. The LLC Income Tax will affect many small businesses in the state, and serve as another drag on our primary drivers of jobs, and was also introduced without public hearings or opportunity for Republican input.

A previous attempt to ban weapons throughout the state house complex by law-abiding citizens including members of the Legislature was soundly defeated as recently as 2008. Rep. Will Smith (R-New Castle), expressed concern that “gun-banning laws have been shown to actually increase the probability of violent incidents by criminals/terrorists, such as the recent tragedy in Ft. Hood, Texas. Since “dangerous weapons” can be construed to include mace and pepper sprays as well as guns, safety issues, especially for women, are raised by the new rule.”

Rep. Dee Hogan (R-Nashua), indicated, “the action just taken by the Committee, which includes top Leaders from both the House and Senate, is a continuation of the Democratic agenda of disarming New Hampshire law-abiding citizens.” Rep. Jenn Coffey, (R- Andover), stated, “accepting this unconstitutional infringement of her right to bear arms would be a violation of her oath of office to support the Constitution, and while Democratic Senator Hassan attempts to justify their actions by claiming Texas has a similar ban, she failed to mention that the ban only applies in the House and Senate chambers when they are in session.”

Rep. Paul Ingbretson, of Pike, “challenged the House and Senate Democratic Leadership to allow this issue to be brought into the light of day, and permit a discussion and vote by the Legislature on the acceptability of this new rule.”

The NHHRA is comprised of members of the NH House of Representatives striving for legislative support for bills supporting the NH and U.S. Constitutions and NH Republican party platform. For more information, please log onto www.nhhra.org ####