



Arizona Citizens Defense League

Protecting Your Freedom

Volume 2020, Issue 2

AzCDL's Membership Newsletter

May 2020

Directors & Officers

Dave Kopp—President
Michael Gibbs—Vice President
Tom Woodrow—Secretary
Fred Dahnke—Treasurer
Ed Martinez—Director
Duke Schechter—Director
Charles Heller—Media Relations



2020 Legislative Review



Because of COVID-19 concerns, the Arizona Legislature recessed on April 25. When they will return to conduct business, and what business they will conduct, is unknown. Summaries and status of the legislation that AzCDL has been tracking this session can be found at our [Bill Tracking](#) page.

For firearms related legislation, the session is effectively over

SB 1664, which would have made government entities that establish gun-free zones liable for damages, died during a Senate Third Read vote on March 3. Four Republican Senators (Paul Boyer, Kate Brophy-McGee, Heather Carter and Frank Pratt) joined all the Democrats in voting against SB 1664. Something to keep in mind at election time.

Still technically alive is **HCR 2033**, a resolution that the members of the Arizona Legislature reaffirm their support for your right to keep and bear arms. This is a non-binding, unenforceable, "feel good" resolution. You'd think this would be a slam dunk because every legislator swore an oath to uphold the Constitutions of the United States and Arizona, however prior versions of this bill have failed to pass. Before the Legislature recessed, HCR 2033 passed out of the House by a 58-2 vote and was sent to the Senate, where it's fate is uncertain.



The following pro-rights firearms bill failed to meet a February committee hearing deadline

HB 2093—Would have made any act, law, treaty, order, rule or regulation of the U.S. government that violates the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution null, void and unenforceable in Arizona. It would have prohibited political subdivisions from using any personnel or financial resources to enforce, administer or cooperate with any act, law, treaty, order, rule or regulation of the U.S. government that violates the Second Amendment.

HB 2721—Unless prohibited by the owner or the owner's agent, firearms possession would be allowed in a building or structure that is a "public accommodation," which is defined as "owned or operated by a religious organization, association or society, a nonprofit institution or organization that is operated, supervised or controlled by or in conjunction with a religious organization, association or society or a public or private hotel, restaurant, theater or museum."

SB 1665—Would have reduced the penalty to a class 3 misdemeanor for being armed in a polling place, or a state or local government facility that bans firearms.

Bad Bills Stopped!

While pro-rights legislators only introduced a handful of firearms bills, those who want to disarm you pulled out all the stops, with over two dozen bills attacking your right to keep and bear arms. With AzCDL's involvement, the following bills were stopped from progressing early in the session. Many of these bills have been filed in prior sessions.

HB 2177 & HB 2584—Identical bills that would have repealed the civil penalty to political subdivisions that destroy seized and surrendered firearms. The statute that is targeted is the one used to require Tucson to stop destroying surrendered and seized firearms.

(Continued on page 2)

Available on the web (www.AzCDL.org)

- AzCDL Goals & Successes
 - Legislative Updates
 - Court Cases
 - Membership
 - Newsletters
 - Online Store
 - Important Links
- (and much more)

Need help accessing the web site? Contact AzCDL at webmaster@azcdl.org

Contacting AzCDL



P.O. Box 86256
Tucson, AZ 85754



Info@AzCDL.org



(623) 242-9086

Inside this issue:

2020 Legislative Recap	1 & 2
Emergency Confiscations	3
Annual Director Election	3
Bloomberg Targets AZ	4



2020 Legislative Session Review



(Continued from page 1)

HB 2321 & SB 1626—A “Red Flag” law that uses *civil* proceedings to forcibly confiscate your firearms based on claims from family members (broadly defined), household members (includes anyone you shared your home with in the previous year), and others, that you *might* be dangerous. Your first notification is when the police show up at your door to confiscate your firearms with the assumption that you *are* armed and dangerous. Your appeal rights are almost non-existent.

HB 2322, HB 2546, HCR 2018, SB 1624—A perennial favorite of Democrats. Would have made it a Class 5 felony to privately transfer a firearm unless you surrender it to an FFL and background checks are conducted on both you and the transferee. *Transfer* is broadly defined and could include simply handing your firearm to a family member or friend. HCR 2018 would send this proposal to the ballot for a popular vote.

HB 2323—Would have required doctors and nurse practitioners involved in pediatric services to lecture patients and their guardians about the “risks” of firearms ownership.

HB 2324 & SB 1286—Would have outlawed the possession of a bump stock or “any part, combination of parts, component, device, attachment or accessory that is designed or *functions* to accelerate the rate of fire of a semiautomatic rifle.” This could include that aftermarket trigger you bought to smooth out your trigger press, since it can *function* to accelerate the rate of fire.

HB 2325 & HB 2437—Would have given FFL’s access to the State’s CCW permit database and require FFL’s to confirm the permit’s validity when conducting a firearm’s sale.

HB 2543 & SB 1165—An overly broad expansion of who can be classified as a prohibited possessor.

HB 2544—Would have created a \$1,000 civil penalty if you don’t have your firearm or ammunition locked up at home. That would include that spare magazine or speed-loader sitting on your dresser.

HB 2545—Would have criminalized private transfers of firearms as illegal “trafficking” and added several regulato-

ry requirements for firearms dealers, gunsmiths and businesses that deal in aftermarket parts. Among the long litany of additional onerous state regulations are:

- Limiting your firearms purchases to one per month.
- Reporting anyone to who buys multiple firearms in a 90-day period to law enforcement.
- Visual and audio recording of sales and maintaining a database of the guns you buy.

SB 1065—Would have required the following to be added to the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission: one person who leads an indigent defense agency; one person who lead a non-profit juvenile justice organization; one psychiatrist or psychologist who works in the criminal justice system.

SB 1164—A *Republican* sponsored Red Flag firearms confiscation bill, supported by the Governor. Included is a fast-food style telephone approval process with judges on call 24 hours a day.

SB 1248—Would have nullified “no duty to retreat” in statutes justifying the use of deadly force for self-defense.

SB 1263—Would have eliminated the Game and Fish Recommendation Board, setting the stage for the appointment of political ideologues determined to end hunting and fishing in Arizona.

SB 1361—Would have made it a crime to store your firearms without “using a lock and key or combination on the trigger of a the firearm or placing the firearm in a securely locked box or other container.”

SB 1381—Would have erased the statute authorizing the state treasurer to withhold distribution of monies when an “ordinance, regulation, order or other official action adopted or taken by a governing body or a county, city or town violates state law or the Constitution of Arizona.” The statute that is targeted is the one used to require Tucson to stop destroying surrendered and seized firearms.

SB 1625—Would have banned the possession, transfer, manufacture, etc. of “assault weapons” and “large capacity”

magazines. “Assault” weapons are largely defined by a detachable magazine and various cosmetic features that would have included pistols and shotguns as well as rifles. A “large capacity” magazine is one that holds more than 10 rounds.

SB 1627—Would have made you a criminal if a minor could access your firearm. A Class 6 felony violation.

The Future

The Arizona legislature is on the cusp of one or both chambers being controlled by an anti-rights majority. The House of Representatives has a razor thin Republican majority of one vote. In the Senate, it’s 3 votes. And, being Republican does not necessarily mean pro-rights. One of the red flag laws introduced this session, SB 1164, was sponsored by a Republican Senator and supported by Arizona’s Republican Governor. Additionally, four Senate Republicans voted with the Democrats to defeat the pro-rights SB 1664.

Voter apathy may enable one or both chambers to flip to anti-rights control in the November election, paving the way for bills attacking your rights to zoom through the legislature and land on the desk of a Governor very likely to sign them into law.

In 430 B.C., the Greek statesman Pericles said, “Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn’t mean that politics won’t take an interest in you.” Whether or not the new Legislature will work with AzCDL at the Capitol to restore and protect our right to keep and bear arms can depend on whether or not you take the time to cast your vote in the August 4th primary and November 3rd general elections.

AzCDL supporters are activists, not spectators, and activism begins with voting. Because our members choose to get involved politically, we have made [historic changes](#) to Arizona’s gun laws and become the model for other states to follow. How much further we can go to protect our rights in the coming legislative sessions depends on who is elected.

Make a difference and VOTE!

Emergency Declarations & Firearms Confiscations



With the COVID-19 virus panic, there have been rumors flying around about emergencies being declared in Arizona so that your firearms can be confiscated.

Thanks to AzCDL's legislative efforts that issue was addressed over a decade ago. In Arizona, neither the state nor any county, city, town, etc. can grab your guns by declaring an emergency.

In 2007, AzCDL was instrumental in the passage of a Senate bill that added a

new section to the statutes regarding emergency powers. [ARS 26-303.J](#) states that:

"Pursuant to the second amendment of the United States Constitution and article II, section 26, Constitution of Arizona, and notwithstanding any other law, the emergency powers of the governor, the adjutant general or any other official or person shall not be construed to allow the imposition of additional restrictions on the lawful possession, transfer, sale, transportation, carrying,

storage, display or use of firearms or ammunition or firearms or ammunition components."

Additionally, AzCDL has spent over a decade successfully pushing for firearms preemption law improvements in Arizona. In a nutshell, only the State can enact firearms laws, not counties, not cities, not towns. The statute is [ARS 13-3108](#).

Want to help us do more? [Join AzCDL!](#)



AzCDL's 2020 Director Election



To promote continuity in leadership, the terms of office for AzCDL's directors are staggered. This year, the director positions held by Fred Dahnke and Tom Woodrow are due to expire.

While Fred and Tom are seeking reelection, the nomination process is open to all members. All nominations will appear on the ballot. If there is only one nominee for a vacancy there will not be a balloting process.

If you are an AzCDL Life member interested in competing for either of these positions on the AzCDL Board of Directors, you may nominate yourself or be nominated by any other member.

If you are going to nominate someone else, you must provide a personal verification from the nominee, including the nominee's signature and membership number, indicating they want to be on the ballot. Candidate biographies and/or statements are welcomed.

Mail all nomination requests to:

AzCDL Membership
P.O. Box 86256
Tucson, AZ 85754

You may also email nominations to treasurer@AzCDL.org. A readable, scanned image of the nominee's personal verification document attached to an email may be considered acceptable if,

in the sole judgment of AzCDL's Board of Directors, it can be verified as authentic.

All nominations must be received by AzCDL by midnight, Saturday, June 27, 2020. Any nomination received after June 27, 2020 will not be placed on the ballot.

If you include a candidate biography and/or a statement of why they/you should be elected, it must be limited to a single 8.5" x 11" page using standard margins and line spacing, and a font size equivalent to Arial 10. Any legitimate candidate statement timely received will be made available to members during the balloting process.

Bloomberg Targets Arizona—Again

In 2014, Bloomberg and his billionaire buddies poured over \$10 million into the passage of a gun owner registration scheme, via a ballot measure, in Washington state. In a press release crowing about their success, Bloomberg's Everytown for Gun Safety stated they were also targeting Nevada, Maine **and Arizona** for the same treatment. In 2016, Bloomberg managed to get a similar ballot measure passed in Nevada.

In 2015, Bloomberg's Everytown hired a lobbying firm, the Dorn Policy Group, to quash progress on pro-rights legislation in Arizona. One bill that was targeted was AzCDL-requested legislation, HB 2431, that would have established an interstate compact where member states agreed not to exceed federal law concerning firearm transfers. Under federal law there are no restrictions on most private firearms transfers between non-prohibited possessors residing in the same state. When such a law is passed, it would have the effect of federal legislation and supersede any law passed to the contrary. It's kryptonite to a ballot measure.

HB 2431 passed out of the House and was working its way through the Senate when Everytown's paid lobbyists entered the picture. The final step was a review by the Senate Rules Committee, composed almost entirely of the Senate Leadership, the same folks who have complete control over the progress of every piece of legislation in the Senate. They held HB 2431 for weeks while the clock ran out on the session. Coincidence? Not likely.

That same year, four identical bills were filed at the Arizona Legislature that were a prelude to a Bloomberg sponsored ballot measure. Under these bills, it would have been a Class 5 Felony to privately transfer a firearm without going through a federally licensed firearms dealer (FFL). "Transfer" was so loosely defined it could include asking a friend to keep your firearms while you were away from home. In order for such a law to be enforced, gun owners and the firearms you own would need to be tracked in state databases. Virtually identical legislation has been filed in every session since then. *Because of AzCDL's involvement, these bills have been defeated every year.*

Since 2014, we have been on the lookout for Bloomberg's next attack on the right to keep and bear arms in Arizona.



Bloomberg Crushes Virginia

In 2019, Bloomberg's Everytown invested \$2.5 Million dollars to successfully flip the political landscape in Virginia. As a result, a rabid anti-rights legislature and Governor were elected. On April 10, 2020 newly elected Virginia Governor Northam sign the following anti-rights legislation:

- The private transfer of property is criminalized. Background checks are now required on private firearms transfers.
- Firearms confiscation via Red Flag civil proceedings ("extreme risk protection order")
- Child day centers and public, private, or religious preschools are treated the same as K-12 schools when it comes to firearms and other weapons on their property.
- One handgun a month restrictions for those without a Concealed Handgun Permit (CHP).
- Reporting lost or stolen firearms required within 48 hours.
- Increased penalties for someone under 14 years old getting access to a firearm.
- Reduced state preemption. Allows local government to control carry, possession, transport, and storage of firearms in government buildings, parks, recreation and commu-

nity centers, and at permitted events, including adjacent streets.

- A person with a permanent protective order cannot possess guns until the order expires or is revoked.

Arizona Targeted—Again

Arizona is the brass ring for gun-grabbers. We have Constitutional Carry, strong state preemption, Constitutional protection against law suits in a self-defense situation, and much more. Guns and Ammo magazine has rated Arizona the best state for gun owners for the last 7 years in a row.

In February of this year, Bloomberg's Everytown announced that it will spend a quarter of a million dollars on a digital ad campaign shaming Arizona legislators for supporting the Constitutionally guaranteed right to keep and bear arms in Arizona. This is just the beginning. As we've pointed out before, the Republican majorities in both chambers of the Arizona Legislature are razor thin, providing an excellent opportunity for Bloomberg to invest a few million dollars to flip a few legislative seats and transform Arizona into an anti-rights dystopia,



Whether or not the Legislature will have a pro-rights majority to support your right to keep and bear arms depends on whether or not you take the time to cast your vote in the August 4th primary and November 3rd general elections.

Not voting is surrendering to those who want to disarm you