

Letter from the vice president of the Georgia Sports Shooting Association, the NRA state affiliate for Georgia, sent to his fellow GSSA board members.

From: Sgt. R. E. Thornton
Date: Tue, 20 Mar 2007 17:28:30 -0500
Subject: SB - 43

This is an "open letter" with all the GSSA BoD Cc'd.

I think I have discussed with you in the past my opposition to the so-called parking lot bill. I have been bombarded over the last 2-3 days by the NRA urging me to call my Senators and voice my support for SB-43.

Well, today I did call them, all six on NRA's list. I told them that I OPPOSE this bill and hope they will find some way to kill it. I told each of them that NRA did NOT consult with it's "Official State Assn." before bringing this bill forward.

I told each of them that I OPPOSE SB - 43 because it violates property rights. And, for 30+ years I have been fighting the infringement of MY right to own guns. Now, I believe that if a property owner's right to his property are not valid, then pretty soon somebody will tell me that MY RIGHT to own and shoot guns ON MY OWN PROPERTY are NOT valid either!

If the government can tell some business owner that he has no right to control who comes on his property, then how can we oppose the government when it tells us we have no right to hunt or shoot on OUR property?

In the past 10 to 15 years, just in the 10th District, I have had to fight County Commissioners who wanted to ban shooting in Clarke, Oglethorpe (twice), and Madison Counties. Also, just about 3 years ago a similar fight was waged by GSSA Directors in Forsyth County. In every case, our argument has been, "WE HAVE A RIGHT TO HUNT AND SHOOT ON OUR OWN PROPERTY!"

PROPERTY RIGHTS are critical to the protection of our Second Amendment RIGHTS!

Anyone who does not understand that property rights and Second Amendment rights are BOTH endangered by this bill really doesn't understand what our Founding Fathers were about.

If your boss doesn't allow guns on his property, LOOK FOR ANOTHER JOB!!!

... GSSA was NOT consulted prior to the introduction of SB-43. That this bill has NOT come UP from the "grass roots". But, instead has been pushed down from NRA HQ in Washington D.C. I wish that you would also advise them that not all of GSSA Directors support this bill and in fact, if the NRA had brought the bill to the GSSA before the session, there would have been a spirited OPPOSITION on the GSSA Board of Directors to this ill-conceived idea.

Semper Fi

Bob

R. E. Thornton
10th Congressional District Director,
Georgia Sport Shooting Association