

To the Tennessee Firearms Association and its members,

As a candidate for Governor, my position on the right to bear arms and the role of government has been clear.

At a recent gubernatorial debate in Memphis, I was the first candidate to affirm my support for arming school teachers to aid in the defense of our schools. At another recent forum in Nashville, I was the <u>sole</u> candidate to express the politically incorrect truth that the recent use of young persons in an effort to curtail our Constitutional freedoms has had a negative impact on our nation.

My views on these issues are informed by my views on the role of government. Our founding fathers understood that our rights are not given to us by government. Those rights are endowed to us by our creator, and our system of self-government is created by 'we the people' to defend and protect our rights. As governor, I would be dedicated to defending our Constitutional rights, including those guaranteed by Article I, Section 26 of the Tennessee Constitution, and the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution.

As your governor, I will not govern as a politician. I will govern to uphold the liberties guaranteed to the people of Tennessee. I will sign legislation that strengthens these fundamental rights, including legislation that:

- Strengthens the lawful right to self-defense by providing for Constitutional carry.
- Defends the right to bear arms on public property.
- Defends the 10th Amendment and prohibits the use of taxpayer funds from being used to violate the rights guaranteed by the constitution.
- Permits any law-abiding permit-holder to lawfully carry firearms on Tennessee college campuses.
- Allows educators to be a part of the school security solution and exercise their right to carry lawfully possessed firearms in the workplace.
- Strengthens and expands the right to political free speech guaranteed by the 1st Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 19 of the Tennessee state constitution

- Provides for the US Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the State Constitution to be taught in our public schools, including the requirement of passage of a civics exam prior to graduation from high school.
- Resolves to amend our state Constitution to bring the Attorney General closer to the people, selected by the Governor and confirmed by the General Assembly.

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Bill Lee