

Memorandum

Posted: January 12, 2018 10:26 AM

To: All House Members

From: Representative Matthew D. Dowling

Subject: Legislation to ensure the protection of Second Amendment Rights during declarations of emergency

Considering the Governor's declaration of emergency on the opioid epidemic some concerns have been raised regarding the Second Amendment rights of the citizens of the commonwealth.

For example, a declaration of emergency, as defined by Title 18 of the PA Crimes Code, limits, among other things, the second amendment rights of law abiding citizens. During an emergency, "no person shall carry a firearm upon the public streets or upon any public property..." with the exemption of those licensed to carry a firearm under section 6109, exempt from licensing under section 6106(b), or "actively engaged in defense of that person's life or property from peril or threat." An argument could be made that this declaration of emergency would limit commonwealth resident's right to open carry. Our second amendment rights are part of the very fabric of our nation and should not be infringed upon.

Description: In the near future, I intend to introduce two bills to address this issue. This memo is for a bill which will simply repeal Title 18 Pa.C.S. § 6107.

Please consider signing on to this important piece of legislation.

Co-Sponsors to date: Representatives' Harry Readshaw, Tina Pickett, Carl Walker Metzgar, Lynda Schlegel Culver, Aaron Berstine, Mike Reese, Russ Diamond, Craig T. Staats, Justin M. Walsh, Francis X. Ryan, Daryl D. Metcalfe, Rob W. Kauffman, Kathy L. Rapp, Eric R. Nelson, Ryan Warner and Rick Saccone.