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STATE OF NEW YORK

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54TH DISTRICT

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TICK BORNE DISEASES
TASK FORCE ON
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

January 12, 2018

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

We are writing to urge you to extend the New York Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement Act of 2013 (SAFE Act) pistol recertification deadline. Dealing with pistol permit recertifications has proven to be a massive problem for County Clerks' and Sheriffs' offices throughout the State, despite the recertification process being handled by the New York State Police.

Many people mistakenly believe that they have to go to a clerk's office where they must fill out and submit the form before leaving with a new permit. We believe that the State could help clear up the confusion by publicly encouraging permit holders to recertify their permit online through the portal on the New York State Police website. It would also help ease the burden on County Clerks' offices as many of these offices, which distribute the recertification form, are dealing with more people and paperwork than normal as people come in to obtain the form.

If a permit was issued before January 15, 2013, the deadline to submit a recertification is January 31, 2018. If a permit was issued on or after January 15, 2013, the deadline to recertify is five years from the date the permit was issued. This means if a permit was issued on January 14, 2013, the deadline to recertify is January 31, 2018. However, if a permit was issued on January 16, 2013, the deadline to recertify is January 16, 2018. This creates a disparity and confusion for both the county clerks and those who were issued a permit during the second half of January 2013.

As outlined above, it is clear to us that there is still a significant amount of confusion surrounding the recertification process. There are currently about 1.2 million pistol permit holders in New York State, but only around 230,000 have recertified as of Tuesday, January 2, 2018 – about 19% of all pistol permit holders in New York State. Extending the deadline must be done to protect the second amendment rights of law-abiding gun owners.

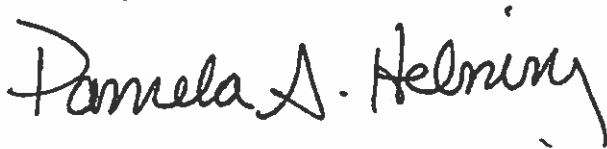
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We are urging you to extend the pistol permit deadline, which would allow the County Clerks and Sheriffs of this State the appropriate amount of time to process recertification requests. We believe this action will help law-abiding gun owners comply with the current law, without the risk of turning them into felons overnight. Despite our belief that this would be a violation of due process, it is our understanding this could, as a result, impact an individual's right to vote in New York State.

We thank you for your consideration of this important request and ask that you do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



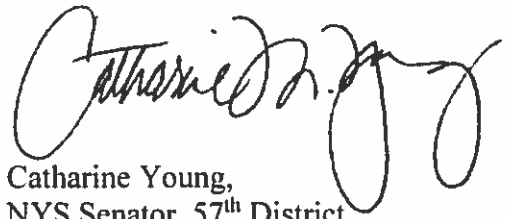
Pamela A. Helming,
NYS Senator, 54th District



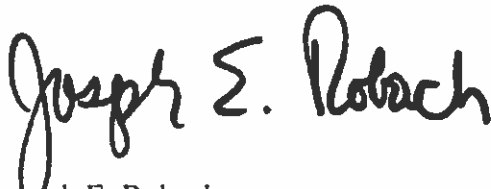
Robert G. Ort,
NYS Senator, 62nd District



John A. DeFrancisco,
NYS Senator, 50th District



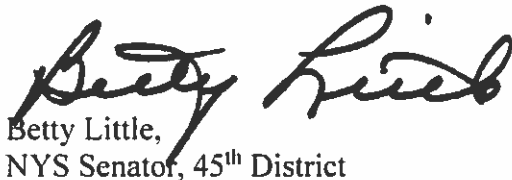
Catharine Young,
NYS Senator, 57th District



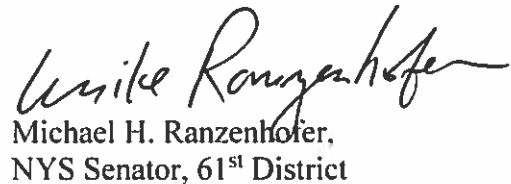
Joseph E. Robach,
NYS Senator, 56th District



George A. Amedore, Jr.,
NYS Senator, 46th District



Betty Little,
NYS Senator, 45th District



Michael H. Ranzenhofer,
NYS Senator, 61st District



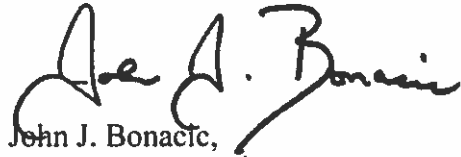
Chris Jacobs,
NYS Senator, 60th District



Rich Funke,
NYS Senator, 55th District



Fred Akshar,
NYS Senator, 52nd District



John J. Bonacic,
NYS Senator, 42nd District



Patty Ritchie,
NYS Senator, 48th District



Patrick M. Gallivan,
NYS Senator, 59th District



William J. Larkin Jr.,
NYS Senator, 39th District



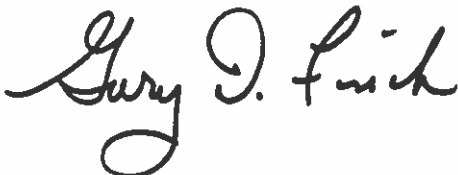
Robert C. Oaks,
NYS Assemblyman, 130th District



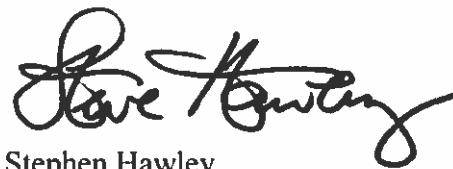
Raymond W. Walter,
NYS Assemblyman, 146th District



Angelo J. Morinello,
NYS Assemblyman, 145th District



Gary D. Finch,
NYS Assemblyman, 126th District



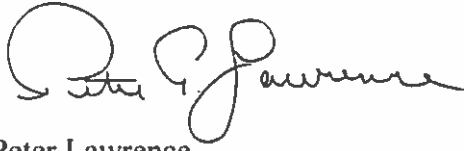
Stephen Hawley,
NYS Assemblyman, 139th District



Robin Schimminger,
NYS Assemblyman, 140th District



Michael J. Norris,
NYS Assemblyman, 144th District

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Peter Lawrence,
NYS Assemblyman, 134th District

Handwritten signature of Carrie Woerner in black ink.

Carrie Woerner,
NYS Assemblywoman, 113th District