

The recent passage of Initiative-594, the so-called "Background Check Law" is-- as predicted by many who took the time to actually read the 18 pages-- complicated, unenforceable, and ineffective. But votes were bought and paid for, so now we are forced to deal with the mess.

The new law(s) seems to have been written by those who have never handled a firearm, and thus have no idea what normal, reasonable actions take place during the course of hunting, competitive shooting, target practice, firearms instruction, gunsmithing, cleaning, maintenance and repair of one's firearm, or even while shopping for a new gun. They have decided that responsible gun owners now cannot share their gun, except under impractical conditions; for instance, a woman who wishes to carry a firearm to protect herself from harm can no longer get training on how to handle a gun safely and use it effectively unless; she is under the age of 18, the training happens at an 'established, government approved' shooting range, and the firearms used stay at the range at all times. Anyone who is familiar with the gun culture understands clearly how ridiculous these restrictions are, and yes, those are the same exceptions that were misconstrued during the campaign for this law. This could be comparable to a stuffed shirt lounging in a high rise office writing legislation that affects hard-working folks out on a farm-oh wait, that already happens. Trying to regulate the behavior of a portion of the populace that you know nothing about is just plain silly.

In conversing with law enforcement personnel about this legislation, it turns out that the authors, in their haste to throw legitimate gun owners under the 'social good' bus, did not even think how to implement or enforce it. Law enforcement are busy looking for 'real' criminals, not those who inadvertently end up on the wrong side of burdensome restrictions on normal behavior and activities. But, effectively making a large portion of the population into felons, and then prosecuting them to the fullest extent of the law, really looks like you are tough on crime. Never mind that those new felons are the same segment of the population who has already been carefully scrutinized by the FBI via background checks and were deemed trustworthy enough to carry around a concealed handgun in society. Sure, it looks great to suddenly have thousands of new 'felons' to prosecute to make their 'gun violence' battle look effective. Except, it's not.

True criminals will not be contacting their lawyer to see how their 'business' can still function effectively under this onerous legislation. Not a single one will reluctantly turn in their criminal card and admit defeat. In fact, I know it may be cliché, but they just. don't. care. It would make far more sense for these social progressives to rebuild an ineffective legal system, so criminals get more than a slap on the wrist as a consequence for violence or crime. Instead, the revolving cell door will continue to work just fine for the small portion of society who is all too happy to remove from you your life, limb or possessions. 'Cuz you don't need them, you just get to work for them.

There is a word for the level of restrictions that are now weighing down the portion of the populace that DO care about breaking the law. It's called bullying. Those folks now being bullied are small business owners, firearm safety instructors, gunsmiths, manufacturers, and lawful citizens whose interests

include firearms. And unfortunately, as long as voters rely on emotions rather than logic, this will continue to happen.