

**The Honorable Arlen Siegfroid**  
**Chair, House Committee for State & Federal Affairs**

**Testimony in Support of HB 2199**

My name is Robert Wood and I am here representing thousands of citizens and active patriots from across Kansas. I represent the Kansas Sovereignty Coalition, the Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association of Kansas and the Kansas State Rifle Association. Many hardworking members of these organizations have taken off work to be here today for this hearing. HB 2199, the 2nd Amendment Protection Act is a powerful bill that restores the order of our nation in many ways. It all starts with the 10th Amendment.

**The Power of the 10th Amendment**

"I consider the foundation of the Constitution as laid on this ground that 'all powers not delegated to the United States, by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states or to the people.' To take a single step beyond the boundaries thus specially drawn around the powers of Congress, is to take possession of a boundless field of power, not longer susceptible of any definition."

-- Thomas Jefferson

The suspension of our 10th Amendment is the core component of what is wrong with our nation. Our states must re-establish the 10th Amendment in order to fend off the oppression inherent in the assaults of centralized power. The violations we are seeing with executive orders and unconstitutional edicts coming from the Federal Government must be stopped. The power of the 10th Amendment is the only way to establish the right order and structure to our nation. We must remember that the states created the Federal Government and not the other way around.

Justice Roberts gave us a clear picture of the state of our nation when he made his decision on the Constitutionality of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. He made a bad decision when he changed the legislation to a tax, but he gave us a clear warning that we must heed in order to correct the course of liberty in this nation.

Quote: "In the typical case we look to the States to defend their prerogatives by adopting "the simple expedient of not yielding" to federal blandishments when they do not want to embrace the federal policies as their own. *Massachusetts v. Mellon*, 262 U. S. 447, 482 (1923). The States are separate and independent sovereigns. Sometimes they have to act like it."

Some elude that the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution makes us a servant to anything

passed by the US Congress or the President. The Supremacy Clause can only effect those things "pursuant to the Constitution." To give a President, a court or any centralized power the ability to have complete control over our Free and Independent States is returning us to the thing from which we separated so many years ago. Our nation was formed as we separated from an all controlling centralized power that stripped us of our rights. The final straw was the attempt to confiscate our powder and our arms. That should be a clear warning to those that attempt to do so today and it is the duty of our Free and Independent State to re-establish our 10th Amendment and our sovereignty now or this great experiment in liberty will be over. If our rights are truly "Endowed by our Creator", then the only Supremacy Clause of this land and the only entity that can suspend those rights is almighty God himself.

### **The Strength of the 2nd Amendment**

"There exists a law, not written down anywhere, but in our hearts; a law which comes to us not by training or custom or reading; a law which has come to us not from theory but from practice; not by instruction but by natural intuition: I refer to the law which lays it down that, if our lives are endangered by plots or violence or armed robbers or enemies, any and every method of protecting ourselves is morally right."

-- Marcus Tullius Cicero (106 BC-43 BC)

The Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights do not establish rights, they just list those rights that have already been "Endowed by our Creator". Some of our Founders did not think it was necessary to list a Bill of Rights because they were part of the natural rights of man as established by their Creator. The right of self defense from evil forces is a natural right. That evil can come from a thief in the night or a tyrannical government stealing the liberty of a nation. Subjugating them to absolute slavery.

"The supposed quietude of a good man allures the ruffian; while on the other hand arms, like laws, discourage and keep the invader and plunderer in awe, and preserve order in the world as property. The same balance would be preserved were all the world destitute of arms, for all would be alike; but since some will not, others dare not lay them aside ... Horrid mischief would ensue were the law-abiding deprived of the use of them."

-- Thomas Paine

Those Founding Fathers that called for the Bill of Rights to be amended to the Constitution wanted a clear understanding of those rights and understood that if ever a centralized power formed in this nation, they would inherently try to destroy these rights in order to enslave the people. They had seen this process happen many times throughout history and they eloquently wrote these warnings to us in the Federalist Papers and in many letters and

correspondence to those they encountered in the process of forming the laws of the states and this nation.

"Are we at last brought to such humiliating and debasing degradation, that we cannot be trusted with arms for our defense? Where is the difference between having our arms in possession and under our direction, and having them under the management of Congress? If our defense be the real object of them under the management of Congress? If our defense be the real object of having those arms, in whose hands can they be trusted with more propriety, or equal safety to us, as in our own hands?"

-- Patrick Henry

After Mr. Obama's Executive Orders and Ms. Feinstein's Gun Ban legislation were announced, hundreds of Sheriffs and Peace Officers have stood up and declared that they will follow their oath to the Constitution and will not follow unjust orders and assaults against the 2nd Amendment. Many from our own state have written letters and also taken a stand against the tyranny coming from Washington, DC. The National Sheriff's Association and many state associations have refused to comply with these orders and legislative threats to our liberty.

"Whereas civil-rulers, not having their duty to the people duly before them, may attempt to tyrannize, and as military forces, which must be occasionally raised to defend our country, might pervert their power to the injury of their fellow citizens, the people are confirmed by the article in their right to keep and bear their private arms."

-- Tench Coxe

It is clear to every person paying attention to 2nd Amendment issues over the last few years that Mr. Obama's Executive Orders and Ms. Feinstein's Gun Ban were formulated well before the Newtown incident. Mr. Obama has been trying to sign the UN Small Arms Treaty for years and indicated that one of his first priorities in his second term would be gun control. They simply used the lives of children as the emotional crisis to promote another attack on our liberty.

Nothing in the Executive Orders or the Gun Ban legislation would have saved the children from the grips of the madman that took their lives that day. In fact, the restrictions on our 2nd Amendment rights that have led to Gun Free Zones are to blame for the deaths of those children and of thousands of others around our nation each year. Chicago is a gun free city and they might as well rename it the Killing Fields because more people die there each year than in active military zones like Afghanistan.

"That the said Constitution shall never be construed to authorize Congress to infringe the just liberty of the press or the rights of conscience; or to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms ... "

-- Samuel Adams

HB 2199 the 2nd Amendment Protection Act should not be necessary if our leaders in Washington were not clearly outside the bounds of the enumerated powers of the Constitution. The most disturbing thing about the Gun Confiscation Bills in Washington are the fact that they exempt the government itself from the bans it would implement on the rest of us. This should send a chill down the neck of every American. Anyone that knows history should understand that a centralized power that wants to have complete control over the people always comes after the guns. With all manner of resistance is taken from the people, they become slaves to that centralized power. This has led to millions of innocent people being slaughtered and attempts at genocide in nations where this has taken place. It is clear that all other rights will be gone without the 2nd Amendment there to protect them.

I am here today to ask that you pass HB 2199, the 2nd Amendment Protection Act to restore our 2nd Amendment and re-establish our 10th Amendment. It is up to the states to put this nation back on track. It is up to you as our elected representatives to uphold your oath and protect the liberty of the citizens of Kansas. Your first duty to the people that you serve is to protect them from any and all threats both foreign and domestic. Those domestic threats are real and they are here ladies and gentlemen of the committee.

We are once again at the crossroads of liberty in this nation. The state of Kansas has a great history of restoring liberty and freeing slaves. We told the Federal Government and the Supreme Court many years ago that slavery was not going to happen here and that "All Men Are Created Equal". It is time that we take that stand again today. Kansas must lead the nation back to the path of liberty and sovereignty once again. Let's show the nation that we will not stand for being slaves to an all power centralized government that refuses to stay within the bounds of the Constitution. Your mission is clear. Pass HB 2199 and have Kansas lead this nation in liberty once again.

"The time is now near at hand which must probably determine, whether Americans are to be, Freemen, or Slaves; whether they are to have any property they can call their own; whether their Houses, and Farms, are to be pillaged and destroyed, and they consigned to a State of Wretchedness from which no human efforts will probably deliver them. The fate of unborn Millions will now depend, under God, on the Courage and Conduct of this army—Our cruel and unrelenting Enemy leaves us no choice but a brave resistance, or the most abject submission; this is all we can expect—We have therefore to resolve to conquer or die: Our own Country's Honor, all call upon us for a vigorous and manly exertion, and if we now

shamefully fail, we shall become infamous to the whole world. Let us therefore rely upon the goodness of the Cause, and the aid of the supreme Being, in whose hands Victory is, to animate and encourage us to great and noble Actions—The Eyes of all our Countrymen are now upon us, and we shall have their blessings, and praises, if happily we are the instruments of saving them from the Tyranny meditated against them. Let us therefore animate and encourage each other, and shew the whole world, that a Freeman contending for Liberty on his own ground is superior to any slavish mercenary on earth.”

[George Washington](#)