



# Will Senator Specter Stand with 100 PA Mayors TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE?

Dear Senator Specter,

**In Pennsylvania, our police officers are under assault.** Every month, it seems, we face another tragedy involving our police. On one terrible morning this April, three Pittsburgh police officers were gunned down while responding to a 911 call for help. In just the last seven years, assaults on police officers in our state have increased by 76 percent, and 18 police officers have been shot and killed in the line of duty – five in the last six months alone. And how does Washington respond? By proposing legislation that would undermine Pennsylvania’s concealed carry law.

We are 106 Pennsylvania mayors – Democrats, Republicans, and independents – who support the rights of law-abiding, responsible gun owners to keep and bear arms in our Commonwealth. Right now, Pennsylvania’s concealed carry law includes protections to prohibit dangerous persons from obtaining permits, including chronic alcohol abusers or people who have committed serious misdemeanor crimes like impersonating a police officer. Our law keeps concealed carry permits in the right hands – and protects public safety by keeping guns out of the wrong hands. Gutting Pennsylvania’s concealed carry law would be a terrible mistake with tragic consequences,

and yet the U.S. Senate is now considering legislation that would do just that.

The “Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act” (S. 845) would require Pennsylvania to honor concealed carry permits granted by other states, even when those permit holders could not meet the standards required by Pennsylvania law. This would strip Pennsylvanians of the power to create their own public safety laws, and hand that power to the states with the weakest protections.

The last thing we need in Pennsylvania is to have Congress gut our laws and endanger our police officers by allowing alcohol abusers and people convicted of impersonating a police officer to carry concealed guns in our communities.

Senator Specter, as chairman of the Senate crime subcommittee, you will preside over a hearing on S.845 this Thursday, July 23 – and the legislation may come up for a vote this week. We turn to you for leadership and support. **Please stand with Pennsylvania’s mayors in protecting our police officers – and the public. Senator Specter, please don’t let Congress strip Pennsylvania of the right to set our own public safety laws.**

*Sincerely,*

**Mayor Thomas M. McMahon**

City of Reading

PA Chairman, Mayors Against Illegal Guns

**Mayor Michael A. Nutter**

City of Philadelphia

**Mayor Luke R. Ravenstahl**

City of Pittsburgh

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Call Senator Specter today and ask him to vote against the “Concealed Carry” bill that would gut Pennsylvania’s public safety laws.

**202-224-4254**

GET THE FACTS: [www.MayorsAgainstIllegalGuns.org](http://www.MayorsAgainstIllegalGuns.org)

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