



New York State Conservation Council Inc.
8 East Main Street, Ilion, New York 13357-1899

MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION

Prohibition of firearms as prizes in games of chance

The NYSCC is opposed to the imposition of this restriction. The transfer of any firearm won in a raffle is completed in the same manner as a normal retail purchase with the appropriate NICS check and paperwork. These transactions are subject to all the usual state and federal laws including adherence to any applicable licensing or age restrictions.

Accordingly, these raffles pose no unique risk to public safety. These firearms are legitimate sporting equipment and there is no reason for prohibiting their incorporation in an entirely lawful activity.

The inclusion of firearms and other outdoor sporting equipment as prizes in fund raising activities has a long tradition throughout New York State. Volunteer fire departments, churches, veterans groups and other not-for-profit organizations use these events as staples in their fund raising activities.

Legislation of this type is truly "a solution in search of a problem." There is absolutely no evidence that the inclusion of firearms as raffle prizes in any way contributes to violent or otherwise illegal activity.

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