



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

MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION

The prohibition of firearms training, recreational and competitive shooting programs in public schools.

The NYSCC opposes legislation that would prohibit educational institutions from providing instruction in the safe handling of firearms or offering recreational and competitive shooting programs.

Firearms handling and hunter safety programs have been an integral part of secondary education programs in many areas throughout the state. Firearms accident rates are the lowest in history. Hunter safety programs have played a major role in reducing hunting-related shooting incidents to the lowest number ever in 2018 – an 80% decline in the last 50 years.

Competitive and recreational shooting programs have been an integral part of secondary education programs in many areas for nearly a century. These programs teach concentration and personal discipline that carryover into academic areas. And these programs have a virtually perfect safety record.

This legislation is unnecessary. Under existing statutes, the administration of each institution has the authority to control the possession and use of firearms on its grounds and there is no evidence that this authority is not adequate for maintaining staff and student safety nor is there any evidence of abuse that would warrant new legislation.

Contact:

A. Charles Parker, President
NYS Conservation Council, Inc.
Phone: 315/963-8413
Email: nyscc@nyscc.com