



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

## **MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION**

**Requiring social media and search engine reviews by law enforcement prior to the approval of an application or renewal of a license to carry or possess a pistol or revolver or the acquisition of a rifle or shotgun.**

The NYSCC strongly opposes these proposals.

These proposals, apparently put forward in a zeal to further restrict the Second Amendment, demonstrate a willingness to seriously erode the First. The free expression of ideas and public debate are fundamental and serve as the basis for the resolution of differences and the hopefully the peaceful emergence of solutions to complex and controversial issues.

The open-ended ability of the police to determine what constitutes disqualifying "biased language" or include as a criteria for prohibition, again at their sole discretion, "any other issue deemed necessary" represents an unacceptable erosion of the right of free speech. While discriminatory practices or threats of violence are unlawful, personal beliefs, social media postings expressing controversial ideas and the uttering of sometimes offensive speech are clearly not.

### **Contact:**

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