

AKTI Executive Committee Teleconference Call

Michigan Bills - June 29, 2004

Meeting called to order by President James Furgal (Camillus Cutlery) at 4:00 p.m. Eastern time. Members participating included CJ Buck (Buck Knives), Dan Lawson, attorney, and David Kowalski, AKTI Communications Coordinator.

Discussion focused on an update of AKTI efforts to respond to Michigan House Bill 5797 (Senate 1296).

Dan Lawson has been in contact with the NRA through the NRA/ILA attorney Chris Conte. The NRA is opposed to the bill. David Kowalski contacted NSSF attorney Larry Keane to alert him to the bill and to ask for input on potential Michigan lobbyists.

Kowalski emailed a model letter to all of his contact lists and several people indicated they emailed the five key lawmakers. He will follow up with an "official letter" to the key lawmakers expressing AKTI opposition and asking for an alert and an opportunity to appear should the bill be called up for discussion in committee.

CJ Buck reported that one of the BladeForums members who had sent letters in opposition had already received a reply from the office of William van Regenmorter, Chairman of the House Committee on Criminal Justice. The van Regenmorter aide reportedly said in his reply ... "we have no plans to move the bill out of committee."

Senator Cropsey, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, replied to CJ Buck and stated ... "we cannot remove a bill that has already been introduced but we are not planning on moving it out of committee."

In spite of these assurances, we will remain alert to opportunities to either address the current committees where the bills now reside and/or to respond to any call for a vote or to move the bill to the next committee in either the House or Senate.

AKTI thanks all those who have already sent letters and emails in opposition. If you have not done so, please help us maintain legal knife sales in Michigan by sending your letter or email to the five key lawmakers identified in our email of June 25.

Respectfully submitted,

David Kowalski

AKTI Communications Coordinator