

105 Oakcrest Drive
Burlington, VT 05408

January 27, 2016

House Government Operations Committee
Montpelier, VT 05602

I am a third generation Vermonter, a Burlington resident for nearly 42 years, a gun owner, a sportsman and an outdoorsman, a parent and a business owner. I firmly believe in representative democracy, and I often find myself amazed at the foresight, creativity and pure genius that the founders of our democracy and our constitution - both federal and state - demonstrated over 200 years ago.

It is from this combination of place of birth, long time residence, education, life experiences and hope for a better and safer world to leave for my children, that along with 2/3 of the rest of Burlington voters, I firmly supported the charter changes you are reviewing for recommendation to the full house for action.

These charter changes are not an assault on the second amendment or the "sportsman's bill of rights". These are common sense rules that will make our community safer, and have been overwhelmingly supported by our voters at town meeting - the most basic and fundamental way of participating in our democracy.

I cannot urge you strongly enough: pass these proposed charter changes out of committee and on to the full house for action. A 2/3 majority of Burlington voters has spoken, and we deserve to be heard in our legislature, and allowed to write the laws that we believe will make our city safer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Duncan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Bob Duncan