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From: R.J. Petrillo <rjpetrillo@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 10:31 AM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Please OPPOSE H7754 - Banning nonres ccw licenses

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am a member of the r/rifguns community on reddit, and a concerned law-abiding gun owner in the state of Rhode Island.

I am writing regarding my concerns about the ban on out of state concealed carry licenses currently under consideration in **H7754**.

I respectfully urge you to carefully consider the significant constitutional risks associated with this type of legislation. Courts have recently found similar laws unconstitutional under the Supreme Court's decision in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Ass'n v. Bruen*, which requires modern firearm regulations to be consistent with the Nation's historical tradition of firearm regulation.

In *Hoffman v. Bonta* (2025), a federal district court held California's longstanding ban **preventing non-residents from applying for a concealed-carry permit violated the Second Amendment**. This is fundamentally identical to what is being proposed in H7754. The court's reasoning was grounded in *Bruen's* historical tradition test, finding that:

- Non-resident restrictions burden the right to keep and bear arms outside the home
- There was no historical tradition justifying barring non-residents from licensure.

A permanent injunction was issued blocking enforcement of California's non-resident carry ban.

In *Shaffer v. Quattrone* (2024), a federal challenge to New York's total ban on non-resident carry licenses (also identical to H7754) resulted in a settlement requiring New York to permit non-residents to apply for licenses under the same criteria as residents.

The clear trend in post-*Bruen* litigation is that broad restrictions on public carry that lack historical precedent are vulnerable to constitutional challenge. While *Bruen* itself did not directly address non-resident carry bans, courts applying its framework have found similar restrictions unconstitutional, and even states traditionally very unfriendly to gun rights have been forced to change policies accordingly

Public policy should be crafted with clear awareness of constitutional limits and recent federal court rulings.

If Rhode Island were to eliminate the ability for non-residents to obtain carry licenses (as H7754 proposes), this would absolutely invite similar legal challenges with an identical outcome. Under *Bruen*, courts ask whether there is a historical tradition of denying non-residents the right to carry arms when otherwise lawfully permitted, and **existing case law suggests that such blanket bans will NOT pass constitutional scrutiny**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard Petrillo
Cranston, RI