



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANET NAPOLITANO
GOVERNOR

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April 25, 2005

The Honorable Ken Bennett
Senate President
Arizona State Senate
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Senate Bill 1363: bar licenses; firearms; posted notices

Dear President Bennett:

Today I vetoed Senate Bill 1363, which would have allowed patrons to carry loaded firearms into bars and restaurants.

I am a strong supporter of the Second Amendment and consult its plain language when analyzing gun ownership rights. When it comes to common sense gun safety issues, however, I am particularly interested in the views of the law enforcement community. Arizona's law enforcement organizations have consistently opposed this legislation, and their concerns have not been addressed by the sponsors of this bill.

I am also sympathetic to the concerns of property owners, including the owners of bars and restaurants that would be adversely affected by this bill. Again, the property owners' concerns must be addressed in any future efforts to legislate in this area.

For these and other reasons, I cannot agree that Senate Bill 1363 should become law.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Napolitano", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Janet Napolitano
Governor

JN:TN/jm

cc: The Honorable Jim Weiers
The Honorable Jack Harper