



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANET NAPOLITANO  
GOVERNOR

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April 29, 2008

The Honorable Jim Weiers  
Speaker of the House  
Arizona House of Representatives  
1700 West Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: House Bill 2630; Concealed Weapons; Petty Offense

Dear Speaker Weiers:

At the request of Arizona law enforcement, I have vetoed House Bill 2630, which would have reduced the penalties for illegally carrying a concealed weapon without a permit from a class one misdemeanor to a petty offense and prevented law enforcement from confiscating the weapon from the violator.

As you know, House Bill 2630 is almost identical to last year's Senate Bill 1629, which I also vetoed. As I stated in my veto letter of May 16, 2007, lawful gun owners who wish to carry concealed weapons should comply with Arizona's concealed weapons laws and obtain the required permit. People who fail to do so are, by definition, lawbreakers in possession of deadly weapons.

As our law enforcement professionals will tell you, serious criminals, especially gang members, often carry concealed weapons without permits. Our law enforcement officers must have the full array of enforcement options to use against these violators, including the power to arrest the violator and confiscate his deadly weapon. Maintaining our current level of penalties promotes the safety of our citizens and law enforcement officers.

For these and other reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 2630.

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:LK/jm

cc: The Honorable Timothy S. Bee  
The Honorable Russell K. Pearce