



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, May 25, 2015

NH Supports SB 116 and the End of State-Sanctioned Discrimination

The Women's Defense League of New Hampshire (The League) conducted our first state-wide poll and finds overwhelming support for making pistol licenses optional.

Contrary to an April 9-13, 2015 Public Policy Poll (PPP) widely cited by NH Democrat legislators and Governor Maggie Hassan, when given the background of NH's pistol license statute, WDL found that over 71% of NH voters oppose the current statute giving local law enforcement the unilateral authority to decide who is and is not "suitable" to discreetly carry a loaded firearm.

Understanding that NH's pistol license was enacted in 1923 to legally discriminate against NH's ethnic minorities – primarily Irish, Italian and French-Canadian – and emerging private trade unions like the United Textile workers, The League believed that if NH citizens understood that chapter in NH history, they would oppose its continued existence.

The survey results prove that New Hampshire voters, regardless of party affiliation, overwhelmingly disapprove of the current pistol license law and believe the state-sanctioned discrimination that has been allowed for almost 100 years must end.

As we have previously stated, The League does not believe that Governor Hassan knew of the discrimination that has occurred thanks to the current pistol license law and we know that the Governor would prefer to vote how the majority of her constituents would want her to.

The League will be holding a press conference Tuesday, May 26th at NOON in the lobby of the Legislative Office Building to discuss the results of the poll and to provide the details of those results.

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Women's Defense League of New Hampshire