

HB 533 -- FIREARMS OF STATE EMPLOYEES

SPONSOR: Riddle

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 9 to 4.

This bill specifies that the state cannot prohibit any state employee from having a firearm in his or her vehicle on state property, provided the vehicle is locked and the firearm is not visible. These provisions apply only to the state as an employer, when the state employee's vehicle is on property owned or leased by the state, and the state employee is conducting activities within the scope of his or her employment.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that as the law is currently written, the state does not allow its employees to protect themselves while traveling to and from their places of employment.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Riddle and National Rifle Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.