

Resolution and Policy Plank Calling for the Repeal of the National Park Gun Ban in Virginia and Across America

Whereas: Virginia is *blessed* with National Parks and Monuments where *officious* bureaucrats presume to have the authority to invalidate the Second Amendment of the Bill of Rights to the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas: Crime is a *serious problem* in National Parks; and

Whereas: Virginia's Constitution in Article 1, Section 13 of the Bill of Rights declares that the right of the people to keep and bears arms shall not be infringed; and

Whereas: The Bush administration issued regulations permitting the carrying of firearms in national parks. Gun owners will soon be able to carry firearms according to the laws of the state in which the park is located; and

Whereas: While not perfect, the proposed regulations, which are likely to take effect at the end of June 2008, represent a sharp contrast with the steadfast refusal to allow for self-defense in national parks; and

Whereas: Anti-gun federal bureaucrats responded after a crescendo of congressional activity and Senator Tom Coburn has made efforts to put the matter before the Senate, and would have done so had Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid not broken his word to Coburn to allow him to have a vote on the measure; and

Whereas: Also, 51 Senators signed a letter to the Department of the Interior urging that the ban be removed; and

Whereas: In the House, there are now three bills that would open national parks to carrying firearms as regulated by the state in which the park is located; and

Whereas: The most recent bill, and the most comprehensive, is that of U.S. Rep. Paul Broun (R-GA), HR 5646, known as the "Protecting the Second Amendment and Hunting Rights on Federal Lands Act of 2008."; and

Whereas: Because congressional activity got the anti-gun Park Service bureaucrats to finally move, the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia need their Members of Congress to keep the heat on the NPS and DOI.

Therefore:

This convention declares its support for the repeal of the National Park Gun Ban, restoration of Virginia self-defense law the National Parks within its boundaries, and the calls upon Virginia's Republican Members of Congress to cosponsor, work diligently for and cast every vote to pass HR 5646, known as the "Protecting the Second Amendment and Hunting Rights on Federal Lands Act of 2008."