

# Iowa's Only No Compromise Gun Rights Group



## Iowa Gun Owners

### 2016 Gun Rights Pre-Primary Candidate Survey

1. In 2010 the legislature passed SF2379 which took Iowa from a 'may issue' state, regarding permits to carry weapons, to a 'shall issue' state. This was an important first step. However, the Constitutional Carry bill (HF2113) did not pass, falling 6 votes short in both chambers. Constitutional Carry recognizes that every law abiding citizen has the right to carry a gun, openly or concealed, for any reason they want to, except to commit a crime. Thus, with no government bureaucracy or license, Iowa citizens could defend themselves, and criminals who use firearms to commit crimes are severely punished. This is the law in Vermont, Alaska, Arizona, Wyoming, Arkansas, Kansas, Maine and most of Montana. If passed in Iowa, this law will allow thousands of people the right to carry a firearm for any lawful purpose with no additional paperwork or fees.

**Would you support Constitutional Carry legislation, which would allow all law-abiding Iowans the right to carry a weapon, either concealed or openly, without having to first obtain government permission and be added to a list, as is done in several other states?**

Sponsor     Cosponsor     No

2. In 2015, Stand-Your-Ground law was introduced in the Iowa legislature. SF137 accrued 24 co-sponsors in a matter of days, but was blocked by Senate leadership who have refused to advance this legislation as of right now. Stand-Your-Ground law, already on the books in dozens of states, simply removes the duty to retreat before an individual can defend themselves from a violent attacker in public places, the same way we don't have to retreat when attacked in our homes, businesses, or vehicles. The bill also states that you can't be civilly sued if you were not criminally charged or are found not guilty in criminal court.

**Would you support Stand-Your-Ground legislation that allows Iowans to defend themselves, with force if necessary, from violent criminal attacks that occur in public places without having to retreat, as well as ensuring that they can't be bankrupted by expensive civil lawsuits?**

Sponsor     Cosponsor     No

3. Iowa is one of a small number of states that still requires law abiding citizens to obtain a government permit-to-purchase in order to purchase a handgun for self-defense. This is contrary to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment and places an undue burden on law abiding citizens, whereas criminals undergo none of these restrictions. Legislation has been introduced in past sessions that would repeal the Iowa code that mandates Iowans obtain this permit.

**Would you support legislation that does away with Iowa's permit-to-acquire requirement and would allow law abiding Iowans the option to buy and sell handguns amongst themselves, without having to first obtain government permission, as is done in the majority of other states?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor      X   Cosponsor    \_\_\_\_\_ No

4. With the passage of Iowa's "Shall Issue" concealed carry law, dozens of towns and counties all across Iowa are enacting their own gun laws that are stricter than state law. This is in direct violation of Iowa code 724.28 which forbids cities and municipalities from enacting laws regarding the ownership, possession, legal transfer, lawful transportation, registration, or licensing of firearms that are stricter than state law. Unchecked, Iowa could have 99 different laws regarding concealed carry, resulting in law abiding Iowans being in violation of county ordinance while being in compliance with state law.

**Would you support legislation that would strengthen Iowa's important pre-emption law that ensures no local government body can pass a gun law that is stricter than state law, to put an end to the county-by-county abuse that Iowans are currently experiencing?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor      X   Cosponsor    \_\_\_\_\_ No

5. Almost every legislative candidate will say "I support the Second Amendment" but not all will stand firmly against new and invasive forms of gun control, especially when "compromises" are offered.

**Will you oppose all methods of gun control, including those that the media calls "reasonable," such as laws that disallow those with simple misdemeanor convictions from owning and carrying guns, increasing the minimum age of those who carry guns for self-defense, new taxes on ammunition, and new ways to track guns and gun owners?**

Yes   X                        No \_\_\_\_\_

6. Gun control advocates hype the false idea that certain cosmetic features make some semi-automatic firearms or high capacity magazines "different" than others. Media hysteria has led to the misperception that semi-automatic firearms are so-called "assault weapons." All semi-automatic firearms function essentially the same, as do all magazines. The federal ban on "assault weapons" expired in September 2004, but some in Iowa have tried to make these firearms illegal here by state law. HF70, introduced in 2015, would ban the transfer or sale of all magazines that hold more than ten rounds of ammunition.

**Do you oppose legislation banning the manufacture, sale or possession of semi-automatic firearms and/or large-capacity magazines, recognizing that these restrictions do nothing to stop crime but only serve to harass gun owners?**

Yes   X                        No \_\_\_\_\_

7. Several states have recently adopted a "Firearms Freedom Act" which states that any firearms made and sold in their home state, therefore not involved in interstate commerce, are not the concern of the federal government and not subject to federal regulations. This has important legal and fiscal ramifications to Iowa gun manufacturers and owners.



**Do you support the idea of a Firearms Freedom Act here in Iowa, which simply allows guns that are made and sold in Iowa, and are not involved in interstate commerce, to be subject to the laws of Iowa only and not those of the federal government as several other states have done?**

Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

8. Anti-gun organizations, often funded with out of state resources, have been clamoring for legislation to end all private party sales in Iowa – and go so far as to make it a felony for family members to pass firearms down to the next generation without submitting to a federal NCIC check, thereby adding themselves and the firearm to a federal list. HF77 was introduced in the last session of the General Assembly to accomplish this radical goal.

**Do you oppose “Universal Registration” legislation that would ban all private party sales and label offenders as felons for simply passing down a family firearm to a descendant or sharing a firearm with a friend while on a hunting trip?**

Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

9. Mental health has become a back door for gun control by expanding the criteria for voluntary and involuntary mental health commitments, adding more and more people to the NCIC ‘prohibited persons’ list often without due process and full adjudication by a court of law. Once a person’s name is placed on this list, it is virtually impossible to have it removed. Legislation has been introduced multiple times in recent years that would greatly expand the range of people who would be able to add a person’s name to the prohibited person’s list.

**Would you oppose all so-called “mental health” legislation that would deny law abiding Iowans their gun rights without due process through a court of law?**

Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby submit the answers to this survey as my solemn word that, if elected, I will vote on these issues as I have indicated in this survey.

Signature 

Printed: Mr. Dan Dawson

District Number: 8

Party: R

Office Sought: State Senate



Unanswered questions will be considered as opposition to the rights of gun owners.

Feel free to attach additional comments to this survey, but know that we cannot publish them. If you have any questions about this survey or need clarification on any question please call us at (515)309-7858.

**Unsigned surveys cannot be accepted for publication. Please return completed and signed surveys using the enclosed envelope to: Iowa Gun Owners, P.O. Box 3585, Des Moines, Iowa, 50323 by May 16, 2016.**