



The Honorable Jim Jordan
Chairman
House Judiciary Committee
2056 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jamie Raskin
Ranking Member
House Judiciary Committee
2242 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C 20515

Chairman Jordan and Ranking Member Raskin,

Founded in 1974, Brady works across Congress, courts, and communities, uniting gun owners and non-gun owners alike, to take action, not sides, and end America's gun violence epidemic. Our organization today carries the name of Jim and Sarah Brady. As you know, Jim was shot and severely injured in the assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan. As victims of gun violence and life-long gun owners, Jim and Sarah dedicated the rest of their lives to passing federal legislation requiring background checks for gun sales. Brady continues to uphold Jim and Sarah's legacy by uniting Americans from coast to coast, red and blue, young and old, liberal and conservative, to combat the epidemic of gun violence.

As the House Committee on Judiciary will be considering the Knife Owners' Protection Act, I write to share Brady's deep concern and opposition to this legislation. This legislation would allow an individual who is not Federally prohibited from possessing, transporting, shipping, or receiving knives to transport a knife or knives through interstate travel and commerce.

This bill is a thinly veiled attempt to circumvent Congress and expand, under federal law, the right to carry and transport all weapons, including firearms. The language in the Knife Owners' Protection Act is substantially similar to that of [18 U.S.C. 926\(A\)](#), which regulates the interstate transportation of firearms. Furthermore, individuals advocating on the issue of knife transportation — such as Founder and Chair of Knife Rights, Inc. and The Knife Rights Foundation, Inc. Doug Ritter — have advocated for loosening gun laws and have [utilized their platform to raise money for extremist gun rights organizations](#). Knife Rights' former chief lobbyist, [Todd Rathner, is even a board member for the National Rifle Association \(NRA\)](#) and has utilized the same talking points that the NRA does when advocating for regulation of knives.

Furthermore, under this bill, state and local law enforcement agencies would be *civilly liable for even attempting* to detain an individual to determine whether they are lawfully carrying knives, disincentivizing them from enforcing their own state's laws or from arresting individuals who are in illegal possession of knives. The Knife Owners' Protection Act will create an enormous burden on law enforcement officers who need to make life-and-death decisions when encountering individuals who are armed with weapons.

As such, Brady opposes the Knife Owners' Protection Act and urges Members to vote against reporting it to the House Floor when it comes up for a vote.

Best,
Mark

Mark A. Collins

Director, Federal Policy

Brady: United Against Gun Violence

bradyunited.org Gun Violence

bradyunited.org