

"Good afternoon. I'm Master Sergeant John DeLallo, United States Air Force, retired. I am a member of the National Rifle Association, Firearm Owners Against Crime, and a Second Amendment Activist. I speak today against the Pennsylvania Instant Check System. From a practical standpoint, PICS is a duplication of the National Instant Check System. It is costly, and in keeping with efforts to cut down the cost of government in Pennsylvania, its elimination will save millions of dollars. Those dollars may be used to fund other worthy law enforcement initiatives.

I'd like to digress from the practicality of eliminating PICS to the underlying reasons why PICS exists. It is my contention that PICS is simply people control. PICS tells me that the Commonwealth has no faith in the Federal Government. PICS tells me that the Pennsylvania State Police wish to continue to maintain a registry of firearm sales that dates back to 1932. PICS tells me that the Pennsylvania State Police Commissioner is not a friend of the firearm owner. Pennsylvania suffers from many layers of government regulation, some of which duplicates Federal law, and some that simply supports patronage jobs. The elimination of PICS is a first step in eliminating other layers of costly government. Will Rogers quipped, in the 1930's, that "It's a good thing we're not getting' all the Government we're payin' for." I'm fairly certain that today he would observe that we simply cannot afford all of the governance that we're saddled with.

More to the point, I have lived an uneventful life. I've never suffered an inconvenience under PICS, except the hidden tax associated with a PICS transaction. However, unlike most of you in this room, I've worked with America's nuclear arsenal, in a Combat Support role assisting missile engineers in procuring parts and pieces that keep our nuclear war fighting machinery operable. My fingerprints are on file with the Commonwealth, as I spent 14 years in the PA Air National Guard, with BATFE as a participant in DCM shooting matches, and of course with nearly every Government alphabet agency known (or unknown). Uncle Sam keeps tabs on former Nukies. I have relinquished all privacy so that you may retain yours. PICS is invasive, duplicitous, redundant, expensive, and MUST be done away with. Other than the desire of the Commonwealth to QUESTION the words found in Section XXI, Article One, of the Pennsylvania Constitution, PICS serves no purpose.

I respectfully thank you for your time, and ask that you carefully consider the words "shall not be questioned" that appear in the Covenant between the Commonwealth and its citizens."

You may contact me at your convenience at [REDACTED] to verify authorship of this e-mail, and confirm my intention to appear before the hearing and make my voice heard.

John DeLallo

