

**From:** ANJRPC Alerts: info@anjrpc.org  
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**Subject:** Senate Committee Hearing on New Smart Gun Bill - Monday!



## **SENATE COMMITTEE HEARING MONDAY ON NEW "SMART GUN" LEGISLATION!**

*Repeal of Smart Gun Mandate Tainted  
By Government Effort to Compel Market Acceptance  
Of Dangerous and Unreliable Technology*

*All New Jersey Firearms Dealers Forced  
To Offer Smart Guns for Sale Instead of  
Letting the Free Market Decide*

*Ban on All Conventional Handguns Likely  
To Return After Government Forces  
Technology onto the Market*

*Contact Committee Members ASAP!*

On Monday, November 16, the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee is scheduled to hear testimony on [S3249](#) - legislation sponsored by [Senator Loretta Weinberg](#) rolling back the ban on all conventional handguns from New Jersey's 2002 "smart gun" law. Unfortunately, the legislation is also tainted by a new mandate on every New Jersey firearms dealer forcing them to stock and display

a smart gun for sale - essentially an effort to compel market acceptance of the technology instead of letting the free market decide.

Beware of gun-banners bearing "gifts." The effort to coerce smart guns onto the market by bullying dealers suggests that politicians will be back with their ban on all conventional handguns soon after an artificial market for the new and unproven technology has been created.

## **THE PROBLEM WITH SMART GUNS**

S3249 was introduced as a result of the failure of New Jersey's hypocritical and ill-conceived smart gun law passed in 2002. That law bans every conventional handgun ever made once a functioning smart gun is deemed available by the state attorney general.

Putting delicate electronics on a device designed to contain a small explosion is highly questionable at best, as is the notion that a fingerprint scanner, grip sensor, or RFID activator will be properly deployed in a split-second emergency where a firearm is needed for self-defense. The technology requires perfect deployment without any variables for the firearm to function, and presumes that no one other than the owner will need to use it. It presumes that the owner's shooting hand will not be injured in a scuffle, that a perfect grip can be formed amidst the adrenaline rush of a calamity, that batteries will not be dead, and that the technology will actually work. But in the real world, when a self-defense gun goes "click" instead of "bang" in an emergency, good people die.

## **SMART GUN HYPOCRISY**

That's why law enforcement thoroughly rejected the idea in 2002 and were accordingly exempted from the smart gun law. It's also why politicians added a provision saying that neither they nor the government can be sued when the technology fails (that provision is still retained in S3249 now). These provisions show that the state *knows* smart guns are dangerous and unreliable, and reveal politicians' epic hypocrisy.

Even more hypocritical is the fact that the same politicians who have been trying to force the general public to use only smart guns are themselves protected by security details armed with conventional handguns.

It is little wonder why gun owner opposition to smart guns has been spontaneous and organic: politicians have tipped their hand and revealed their end game - to use the technology as an excuse for sweeping gun bans, and to compel everyone

except themselves to stake their safety on a new, unproven, potentially dangerous and unreliable technology. New Jersey's smart gun law has been a giant, failed experiment with the lives and safety of law-abiding citizens.

## WHY SMART GUN LEGISLATION FAILS

Frustrated and apparently mystified by consumer rejection of smart guns 13 years later, Senator Weinberg now absurdly blames NRA and ANJRPC for the law's failure, in a wild-eyed conspiracy theory that gun rights groups have the magical power to block the development and distribution of technology. S3249 is the supposed answer - roll back the ban on conventional handguns contained in the 2002 law "so development of smart guns can proceed and we can let the market decide."

The only trouble is, S3249 does far more than roll back the 2002 ban -- it also bullies and intimidates every firearms dealer in New Jersey into carrying and creating an artificial market for smart guns. The obvious ploy is to force market acceptance of smart guns, not "let the market decide," after which politicians will be back with their mandate banning everything except smart guns. **Any politician claiming that the ban on conventional handguns will not eventually return should be challenged to publicly pledge that they will never support or encourage such a ban in the future.**

Smart guns are the holy grail for gun ban extremists throughout the U.S. because of their potential to be used to justify bans - just as New Jersey used them to justify a ban in 2002. Hardly a day goes by without a full court press for smart guns in the national media. The intended end game of the process has already been revealed in New Jersey - develop the technology, and then ban everything else. It's not a theory - it's a demonstrated fact.

And some of the claims made about smart guns are demonstrably false. For example, the claim that smart gun technology ensures that only the owner will be able to fire the gun is false in the case of prevalent RFID technology requiring the user to wear a ring, bracelet, or other external device that broadcasts a signal to the firearm; anyone who gets access to the device can fire the gun, including a child, and including a violent criminal.

Ironically, it is the continuing injection of government mandates into the process that creates deep mistrust and taints potential new technologies, essentially dooming them to failure. Politicians who wish to see new technologies have a fighting chance at gaining market acceptance need to simply remove themselves from the equation and stop trying to force the process - and let the market decide

without interference. Mandating that any business carry any particular type of product is well beyond the role of government.

Although politicians claim that making the world safer is their goal, it's never about making citizens safer from criminals by empowering them to defend themselves - it's always about demonizing firearms themselves as the source of the problem.

For more background on smart guns and this new legislation, watch ANJRPC Executive Director Scott Bach recently discuss the proposal on NRA News [here](#).

**PLEASE IMMEDIATELY CONTACT [MEMBERS OF THE SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE](#) AND TELL THEM TO:**

- 1. Amend S3249 to remove the mandate on gun dealers;**
- 2. Amend S3249 to require the exclusive use of smart guns for all State House and legislator security details;**
- 3. Repeal the provision of the existing smart gun law preventing politicians and the government from being sued if mandated smart gun technology fails; and**
- 4. Publicly pledge that they will never support or encourage a ban on conventional handguns in the future;**

PLEASE WATCH FOR FUTURE ALERTS ON THIS ISSUE.

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