

VIRGIL H. GOODE, JR.
5TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4605

**PLEASE USE THE
ROCKY MOUNT ADDRESS**

December 21, 2005

The Honorable Gale Norton,
Secretary of the Interior
Interior Building
1849 C Street, N.W., Room 6156
Washington, D.C. 20240
Fax: (202) 208-5533

Dear Secretary Norton:

I am following up on my July 27, 2005 letter to you concerning Title 36 Section 2.4 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for the Department of Interior's (DOI) National Park Service, which currently prohibits citizens from possessing a firearm in any national park, monument, memorial, or historic site administered by the National Park Service.

I believe some of these prohibitions infringe on the rights of law abiding concealed weapons permit holders. Since these permit holders are required to meet state criminal background checks, I have supported an amendment to 36 CFR 2.4 to allow concealed weapon permit holders to carry their firearms legally in National Park Service administered sites and in national wildlife refuges. I also support allowing off duty law enforcement offices to carry weapons for personal protection on National Park Service property. The change would follow state law as is done in National Forests.

It is my understanding that the Virginia Citizens Defense League files a petition in February 2005 to amend this regulation, which is still under review after ten months of consideration. I hope this matter is not being given low priority back burner treatment. I urge the Department to complete this review and to show every consideration to the regulation to allow law-abiding citizens to bear arms in these venues. Thank you for your attention.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Virgil H. Goode, Jr.

VHGjr/cld

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