

## SAMPLE LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Today' s Date

Your Name  
Address  
City, State Zip  
Phone Number

Letters Editor  
*Name of Paper*  
Address  
City, State Zip

Dear Editor,

As a subscriber to *Name of Paper*, I am writing in response to "Title of Article" (date article appeared). On September 10 and 11, 2003 the Missouri legislature will convene a special session during which they will have the opportunity to override Governor Holden's veto of both the Right to Carry legislation (HB 349) and the Reckless Lawsuit Preemption bill (S 13). Both of these common sense measures passed the Missouri legislature with bipartisan support. With that in mind, I am compelled to encourage your editorial staff to report objectively on these bills.

As has been the case when Right to Carry legislation has been debated in state legislatures across the country, naysayers claim that such laws will cause a surge in the state's crime rate. This is simply not the case. Such instances have not occurred in other states, now totaling 35, that have enacted nondiscriminatory Right to Carry laws that allow qualified, law-abiding citizens to obtain a permit to carry a concealed firearm for self defense.

Additionally, passage of the Reckless Lawsuit Preemption bill would prohibit local governments from circumventing the legislative process by filing reckless lawsuits against lawful firearm manufacturers to recover costs related to criminal misuse of their products. Contrary to what critics are claiming, SB 13 would not affect the right of parties to sue for damages sustained from truly defective products. Moreover, a vast majority of the dozens of cases filed by cities and counties nationwide have been dismissed by the courts, further highlighting that these reckless lawsuits are based on a political agenda, rather than merit.

Rather than a knee-jerk reaction in opposition to Right to Carry and Reckless Lawsuit Preemption, the *Name of Paper* should direct its efforts toward presenting a balanced and objective commentary on the merits of a fair means of self-defense for law-abiding Missourians, and a much-needed curb on the abuse of our judicial system.

Sincerely,

Your Name