

March 14, 2011

Representative Mark K. Hilton

NC House of Representatives 16 W. Jones Street, Room 1227 Raleigh, NC 27601-1096

Representative Hilton:

HB 111 has the potential to make a significant impact on restaurant owners with ABC permits across the state. The North Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association (NCRLA) is monitoring its progress and currently does not have a position on the original bill. The bill would allow concealed handgun permit holders to enter a restaurant with an ABC permit or, on the amended version, give restaurants the ability to post a sign prohibiting such an act.

NCRLA is strongly opposed to a second amendment, which allows restaurant servers to ask a patron ordering alcohol if they are carrying a firearm. This puts servers in an unfair, uncomfortable and possibly unsafe position. Restaurant owners have no interest in putting any staff or themselves in this position.

Please let us know if you need any further input from the restaurant industry or NCRLA on this issue.

Best Regards,

Paul M. Stone President & CEO

cc: Rep. Leo Daughtry