



P.O. Box 95735
Albuquerque, NM 87199
(505) 235-6323

RE: Support **HB 83 Permitless Carry of Firearms**

Mr./Madame Chair and Committee Members:

The New Mexico Business Coalition (NMBC) represents hundreds of businesses and thousands of New Mexicans. We focus on making New Mexico a better place to live and work, with abundant good-paying jobs to provide for our families.

NMBC supports HB 83, Permitless Carry of Firearms, which would remove permit requirements for 18-year-olds and over to carry a concealed weapon yet retain existing prohibitions on carrying firearms in certain locations. Reducing bureaucratic hurdles and affirming the right to self-defense is a much-needed validation of Second Amendment rights.

Most criminals avoid those who could counter their attack, so this law could potentially deter crime by allowing more citizens to arm themselves for protection. This is especially needed in high-crime areas like Albuquerque. On the enforcement side of the equation, HB 83 would help simplify law enforcement interactions with law-abiding citizens by eliminating the need to check for concealed carry permits

For these reasons, we urge you to vote **"YES"** on HB 83 Permitless Carry of Firearms

Thank you for considering my comments,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carla J. Sonntag", with a horizontal line underneath.

Carla J. Sonntag
President and CEO