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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

SECRETARY OF SENATE
ENROLLING CLERKS

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

January 15, 2015

2015 JAN 15 P 1:36

Michigan Senate
State Capitol Building
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Today I am vetoing Enrolled Senate Bills 789 and 790, which would change Michigan's process for issuing a license to carry a concealed pistol. While the bills include a number of reforms I support, they also include changes to the concealed pistol licensing requirements that may increase the risks of violence and intimidation faced by victims of domestic abuse who seek protection in court.

I am particularly concerned by the fact that SB 789 would allow certain persons who are the subject of a personal protection order (PPO) to obtain a concealed pistol license. Under the current law, no person who is the subject of a PPO may obtain a license to carry a concealed pistol. Senate Bill 789 would limit this restriction to apply only in those cases where the PPO also includes express language stating that the subject of the PPO is not allowed to purchase or possess a firearm.

When seeking a PPO, victims of domestic abuse may not know to ask the court for a specific restriction on the subject's ability to purchase and possess firearms. Today, PPOs issued without this language still have the effect of preventing the subject from obtaining a concealed pistol license. Because SB 789 would remove this blanket protection in cases when the PPO fails to specifically address firearms—whatever the reason for the omission—it may increase the risks faced by victims of domestic abuse. For this reason, I have decided to veto SB 789 and 790.

I look forward to continuing to work with the legislature over the coming term to find a way to make the reforms needed to our system of concealed pistol licensing without putting domestic abuse victims at risk.

Sincerely,



Rick Snyder
Governor