



Dutchess County *Young Republicans*



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Senator Gillibrand: New Job Comes With New Anti-Gun Views

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand has joined Senator Chuck Schumer in calling on government to establish a database of personal information on gun-owners, contrary to the current federal policy that requires mandated background check data on legal gun-purchasers to be destroyed within 24 hours. Not only is this a radical about-face for Gillibrand, it is bad policy and violates the personal privacy of law-abiding citizens.

Gillibrand, who built her previous successful political platform as a U.S. Representative on protecting Second Amendment rights, has now blatantly reversed her support of gun rights – not to mention civil liberties – by demanding the government keep tabs on gun owners. This goes beyond an infringement on the Second Amendment’s “the right to bear arms” but dangerously gives government the opportunity to perpetually spy on good citizens for no other reason than they choose to exercise this constitutionally protected right.

The point of a background check is to attest to a citizen’s good character – once that is established there is no further need to retain records. While most gun owners don’t object to a background check prior to purchasing a firearm, they find it difficult to comprehend a purpose such a retention policy would serve. Gillibrand and Schumer claim the retention policy will help crack down on illegal gun trafficking, but fail to connect the dots to support their argument.

Clearly, the primary objective of Gillibrand and Schumer is to provide fodder and biased information to anti-gun groups for use in propaganda and lawsuits, at a time when Democrat Representatives are lining up for a primary challenge against Senator Gillibrand. Desperately trying to score political points with the Democrat Party at the expense of her constituents is poor policy and poor politics. New York needs senators who will protect our constitutional rights and limit governmental intrusion in our lives, not work feverishly to erode our rights while violating our privacy.

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