

From: senator\_allen@allen.senate.gov  
Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2004 4:19 PM  
To: dave@bighammer.net  
Subject: A response from Senator George Allen

Dear David:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the ban on firearms in National Parks. I appreciate your concerns and value the opportunity to respond.

As you may know, current law restricts the possession or use of firearms or other weapons in all National Park System (NPS) Areas. However, there are rare exceptions to this rule, such as times when controlled hunting is allowed. If you would like to transport weapons through NPS Areas, they must be dismantled and adequately cased or packed in such a way as to prevent their use.

While there has not been legislation introduced to repeal the ban on firearms in National Parks, please be assured that I will keep your thoughtful comments in mind should such legislation be brought before the Senate.

My philosophy has always been that law-abiding individuals should have the right to keep and bear arms of their choice. When it comes to firearms legislation, our primary concern should be the enforcement of existing laws. This approach would do more to keep illegal guns out of the hands of criminals than passing new and additional requirements on the sale of firearms to honest gun-owners. Criminals commit gun-related crimes and we should focus our attention on these criminals rather than further restricting the rights of law-abiding citizens.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me. If you would like to receive an e-mail newsletter about my initiatives to improve America, please sign up on my website (<<http://allen.senate.gov>>). It is an honor to serve you in the United States Senate, and I look forward to working with you to make Virginia and America a better place to live, learn, work and raise a family.

With warm regards, I remain

Sincerely,

Senator George Allen