

## Memorandum in Support

NYSBA Federal Memorandum #5

January 7, 2016

### **The New York State Bar Association Supports repeal of the Dickey Amendment**

In 2015, the NYSBA House of Delegates approved a report of the Association's Task Force on Gun Violence, which was written to serve as a non-partisan resource on the Second Amendment and its implications. The report may be viewed on the Association's website at the following link: <http://www.nysba.org/GunViolence>

The report discusses the current funding and programmatic restrictions that effectively keep the Centers for Disease Control ("CDC") and other federal agencies from undertaking research relating to firearm violence and interfere with federal agencies sharing information about gun violence.

The Association believes that it is essential that there be non-partisan, scientific inquiry to analyze, assess and provide information on the causes and trends of gun violence in America.

The collection and distillation of this evidence is necessary for lawmakers and the public to make informed judgments about this topic. Only by having hard data on the causes of firearm violence can we expect informed policies and laws intended to reduce gun violence and make our country safer.

PL 104-208 -- the "Dickey Amendment" -- states, "that none of the funds made available for injury prevention and control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may be used to advocate or promote gun control."

Without funding, the CDC was effectively forced to withdraw from the field of firearms research.

Based on the foregoing, the New York State Bar Association respectfully **SUPPORTS** repeal the Dickey Amendment.