



The Association of Senior Human Resource Executives

Contact: Dan Yager
(202) 789-8670

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 6, 2005
dyager@hrpolicy.org

STATEMENT OF OPPOSITION TO STATE LEGISLATION PROHIBITING EMPLOYER RESTRICTIONS AGAINST WEAPONS IN THE WORKPLACE

WASHINGTON, DC—The HR Policy Association is very concerned about the potential proliferation of state laws hampering the ability of employers to establish reasonable workplace rules intended to protect their employees from workplace violence. If anything, legislators should be concerned about strengthening employers in their battle against such incidents. Fundamental to this effort by employers is their ability to prohibit weaponry on their premises. It is particularly alarming that the legislation currently pending in Florida would actually make it a felony for an employer to try to protect its employees by banning the presence of such weapons anywhere on the premises.

“With very few unique exceptions, guns and other weapons have no place in the workplace. If an employer has determined that the safety of its employees is best served by a ban, a state is exposing its residents to enormous risks by taking that decision away from the employer. Protecting their employees against workplace violence is among the highest priorities of chief human resource officers and decisions regarding rules to provide that protection are not taken lightly,” said Daniel V. Yager, Senior Vice President and General Counsel of HR Policy Association, an organization of senior human resource executives of more than 260 of the nation’s largest private sector employers.

HR Policy Association, established in 1957, represents the senior human resource executives of more than 260 of America’s largest employers. Its members are a cross-section of large employers—both heavy and light manufacturing, auto companies and suppliers, the nation’s largest hi-tech companies, financial institutions, retailers, service providers, defense contractors, and energy companies, as well as pharmaceutical companies, health insurers, providers, and health care institutions.

###