



## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF FLORIDA

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### **Keep Open Carry Bill Resting in Peace**

Tallahassee, FL -- In response to a late night amendment bringing Open Carry up again, LWVF president **Pamela Goodman** said, "**Senator Gaetz** is attempting a Hail Mary pass for the NRA in a procedural move to bring Open Carry back to the Senate floor. A last hurrah for an outgoing senator who faces no election this year. This zombie bill was killed in committee where it should remain."

"The voices of so many Floridians in our communities and our businesses will hopefully still resonate with the Senators of integrity and credibility who will NOT allow these shenanigans," Goodman continued. "The citizen collective sigh of relief when this bill was killed and praise for the Senators that made that bold and courageous move against the NRA, was heard across our state. We are hopeful that SB 612 finds a final resting place today... On the shelf."

Sen. Gaetz took the language of the open carry of firearms legislation and amended onto SB 612, a billed legalizing open carry of a slung shot, which is basically a weight on the end of a flexible piece of cord or chain used as a weapon when thrown. Most states prohibit a person from carrying slung shots, brass knuckles, or blackjacks on the street and was used by gangs in the 1800's. It has been illegal in Florida since 1868.

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*The League of Women Voters of Florida, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information, please visit the League's website at: [www.TheFloridaVoter.org](http://www.TheFloridaVoter.org).*