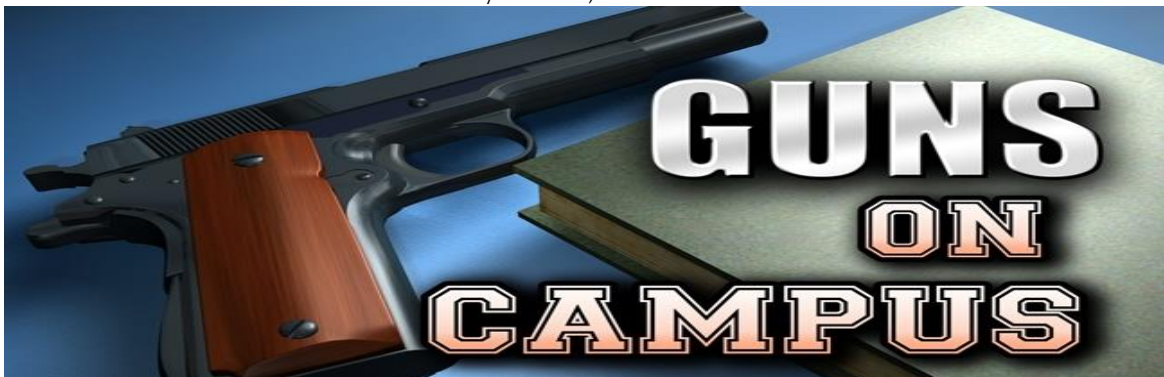




**GEORGIA NAACP**

Francys Johnson, State President



**Statement from the Georgia NAACP**

The Georgia NAACP applauds Governor Nathan Deal for exercising pragmatic wisdom in vetoing House Bill 859, which would legalize firearms at all public colleges in Georgia.

"This victory shows that there are limits even to the once thought all powerful lobby of NRA and ALEC inspired legislation" said Francys Johnson, Statesboro Attorney and Georgia NAACP President.

The gun measure, known as the "campus carry" bill, was long sought by conservatives and Second Amendment activists who cast it as a crucial safety measure for students, faculty and administrators to protect themselves. Until this year, their efforts were stymied by critics including college presidents, who warn that expanding gun rights to campuses would increase the likelihood of violent shootings.

"The Second Amendment is not absolute. Reasonable patriots understand the need to balance the right to bear arms against the right of the citizenry to be free proliferation of firearms that diminishes public safety in the name corporate profits for gun manufacturers" said Johnson.

*The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) has had an unbroken presence in Georgia since 1917. The Georgia NAACP maintains a network of branches throughout Georgia, from cities to small rural counties. The Georgia NAACP has been the most effective and consistent advocates for African American civil rights in Georgia.*

**National Association for the Advancement of Colored People**

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