



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

December 29, 2014

Michigan Senate
State Capitol Building
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Today I am vetoing SB 964, SB 965, SB 966 and SB 979. These four bills were intended to be part of a comprehensive, seven-bill legislative package addressing the application of firearms laws to pneumatic guns. In addition to these senate bills, the full legislative package also included HB 5450, HB 5749 and HB 5750. While the four senate bills were enrolled at the end of the last legislative session, the senate did not pass the three house bills. As a result, I am left to consider only one half of what was intended to be a comprehensive package of bills.

Because only part of the pneumatic gun reform package has been enrolled and presented to me for signature, the enactment of these bills would result in a variety of contrasting definitions of "firearm" across our statutes. Pneumatic guns would no longer be considered "firearms" under the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act or for certain purposes under the penal code, but they would remain "firearms" for purposes of Michigan's firearms law. The absence of the house bills from the enrolled package would create a number of other inconsistencies in Michigan law, ranging from a variety of different standards governing the allowable use of pneumatic guns to the existence of provisions allowing for the regulation of conduct that is prohibited elsewhere in our statutes.

In short, the enactment of these four senate bills would result in a situation that would be extremely confusing for both law enforcement and gun owners.

Sincerely,

Rick Snyder
Governor