

**For immediate release**

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**Representative Jared Moskowitz Demands Investigation Regarding Suppressed Inspector General Report of Flawed Concealed Carry Permit Background Check System**

**Coral Springs, FL** – Today, **Representative Jared Moskowitz (D- Coral Springs)** issued a letter to **Speaker Richard Corcoran** requesting that the Government Accountability Committee and the Oversight, Transparency & Administration Subcommittee be convened to investigate the distressing allegations that Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam’s office deliberately failed to conduct background checks on tens of thousands of concealed carry applications. Putting all Floridians at fatal risk, the lack of proper vetting of applicants through a FBI crime database resulted in the issuance of almost 300 licenses to individuals with known security risks.

“The recent reports disclosing the Department of Agriculture’s dumbfounding failure to conduct the most basic background check on thousands of concealed carry permit applications is not only reckless but they are complicit in endangering the lives of Floridians. More shameful is Commissioner Putnam’s reprehensible attempt to cover up the gross ineptitude of his office by actively lobbying for provisions under HB 553 that would further cripple the effectiveness of an already unreliable gun licensing system,” stated **Representative Moskowitz**. “The self-proclaimed ‘NRA sellout’ is not only paying lip service to special interests, he is also knowingly circumventing the integrity of a department he is constitutionally charged with defending. At this point, I hope this is a sheer display of incompetence and not a willful subversion of our public safety for short term political gain.”

The letter raises concerns as to the why the report was hidden from the Legislature and the public during such a contentious gun debate as well as how many reports have been purposely concealed, placing political expediency over public safety.

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