



Senator Diaz de la Portilla Ignores Rape Survivor, Makes Mockery of the Legislative Process

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The campus carry bill has been **intentionally** stalled in the Senate Judiciary Committee for the second year in a row by Senator Miguel Diaz de la Portilla. Senator Diaz de la Portilla has been quoted as saying,

"We're not going to hear campus carry...the dangers outweigh the potential and perceived benefits."

- Senator Miguel Diaz de la Portilla, Judiciary Committee Chairman

Senator Diaz de la Portilla has taken it upon himself to unilaterally decide the future of a bipartisan bill that the vast majority of legislative members support. He has made a **mockery** of the American legislative branch and turned Florida's legislative process into a one-man show, without respect for the safety of college students.

In fact, **Senator Diaz de la Portilla has continued to ignore campus rape survivor**, Shayna Lopez-Rivas who has been attempting to schedule a short meeting with him since October of 2015. She asserts that if she had been old enough to have a gun and if she had been allowed to carry on campus, she never would have been raped. Yet Senator Diaz de la Portilla does not want to give her the time of day, so she has made all of her e-mails to him public on social media in an effort to share her story.

"Senator Portilla would rather have me be raped again than even schedule a bill."

- Shayna Lopez-Rivas, campus rape survivor

The Senator is ignoring his job description. His purpose as Chairman is to take bills that have high public interest and put them on the agenda for a vote. Instead, he has decided to make the decision on his own, ignoring his role as a servant to the people. Senator Diaz de la Portilla has even decided to **refuse meetings with the bill sponsors** of all gun rights bills currently in session. If this does not disqualify him from a future in politics, then we do not know what does.

Senator Diaz de la Portilla can vote 'no' if he does not support campus carry, but **he should be removed from his office** for ignoring his duty to put bills up for a vote. If he refuses to put campus carry on the Judiciary Committee agenda, then he should also be held responsible if students are attacked on campus and have no way to defend themselves.

If this type of behavior is permitted to continue, the legislative system will be fundamentally changed forever. **Senator Diaz de la Portilla represents exactly what is wrong in politics** and the people must not let him continue to act as judge, jury, and executioner. Senate President Andy Gardiner is just as much to blame. **Senator Gardiner has the power to ensure the campus carry bill gets a vote**, but refuses to do anything and uses Senator Diaz de la Portilla as a scapegoat. Contact Senator Diaz de la Portilla and Senate President Andy Gardiner to demand campus carry get a vote.

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