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BAKER NOTES "RED FLAG" BILL SUPPORT FROM POLICE CHIEFS

Gov. Charlie Baker on Monday reiterated his conceptual support of the red flag, or extreme risk protective order bill that has been on his desk since late last week when the Legislature gave it final approval.

The legislation (H 4670) would create a new judicial process that would enable guns to be temporarily removed from anyone who is deemed to be dangerous following a petition initiated by a person's household or family member.

"It's under review, and as I've said before, I'm conceptually in support of that," Baker told reporters after joining Mayor Martin Walsh on the Charles River Esplanade to talk about planning for the July 4 fireworks and concert in Boston.

While gun rights activists have railed against the bill, Baker noted support for it from the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association. Dudley Police Chief Steven Wojnar, who is the association's president, visited the State House at the end of April to promote the bill.

"Massachusetts has always relied on police chiefs to serve as the primary point of decision-making on issues around license to carry," Baker said. "The fact that the police chiefs came out in support of this legislation meant a lot to us."

The governor has until Sunday, July 8 to act on the bill. - Chris Triunfo/SHNS

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