



SHERIFF

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May 23, 2013

The Honorable Mike Gatto
Chair Assembly Appropriations Committee
California State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Opposition to AB 48

Dear Assemblymember Gatto:

As the Sheriff of Riverside County, I oppose AB 48. This bill would prohibit devices capable of converting ammunition magazines into high capacity magazines and would place a number of hurdles and restrictions on the ability of ordinary citizens to purchase ammunition for their firearms. California already bans high capacity magazines.

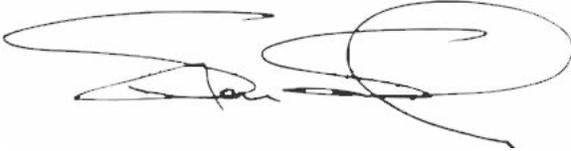
I oppose this bill because it would negatively affect the ability of law abiding citizens to obtain ammunition for the firearms which they legally possess. This law would place overly restrictive regulations on the sellers of ammunition and seriously limit the ability of many sports enthusiasts and hunters to obtain ammunition for their sporting events, shooting exhibitions, or gun shows. This bill is overly intrusive as it requires citizens to provide their personal identification information every time they wish to purchase ammunition. Because this bill would prohibit any person from transferring ammunition to another without being a licensed ammunition vendor and obtaining their personal identifying information, this bill could negatively affect the ability of volunteer instructors for self-defense programs, firearm safety programs, or youth organizations like the Boy Scouts, to obtain enough ammunition for their programs. Many competitors buy ammunition routinely in bulk to gain the most competitive pricing.

It is probable this bill would probably overly burden the California Department of Justice (DOJ) as it would require them to process not only firearm registrations but also ammunition purchases. This over burdening could cause lengthy delays in processing of both firearm and ammunition registrations and purchases.

There are some who believe these proposed restrictions will stop the sale of ammunition to criminals. It has been my experience that criminals routinely find ways to circumvent the law. Whether the criminals utilize a false identity to purchase ammunition, persuade a person without a criminal record to purchase the ammunition for them, steal it, or purchase the ammunition from out of state, most criminals will not be deterred. It is the honest, law abiding citizens who would be hurt under these new restrictions.

For these reasons, I must oppose AB 48, as it also adversely impacts the Second Amendment in an indirect fashion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Stan Sniff", written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

Sheriff Stan Sniff, Riverside County

CC: California State Sheriffs' Association (CSSA)
Riverside County Legislative Representatives