



# SHERIFF

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The Honorable Jerry Brown  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

September 23, 2013

**Subject: Senate Bill 374 – Request for Veto**

Dear Governor Brown:

As the Sheriff of Riverside County, your 4th largest county and home to 2.3 million citizens, I respectfully ask you to veto SB 374.

This bill would reclassify semi-automatic rim fire or center rifles, which do not have fixed magazines capable of accepting no more than 10 rounds, as assault rifles. This bill would also require the registration, as an assault rifle, of all firearms meeting this proposed new “assault rifle” definition.

This bill places onerous restrictions on the constitutional rights of the honest, hardworking citizens who choose to own a semi-automatic rifle in California. However, this bill will not deter criminals from obtaining firearms for illegal purposes, and it does not help law enforcement keep our communities safe.

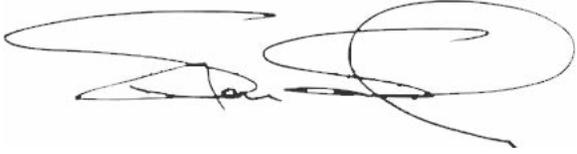
This bill prohibits a greatly expanded definition of an “assault rifle” would include most semi-automatic rifles currently owned and used for hunting for generations by the law abiding citizens of California. Worse, it would ban the purchase of these firearms in the future, including many renowned and expecting hunting firearms. This bill reaches too far in an attempt to strip the rights of law-abiding citizens to purchase generally in use semi-automatic rifles.

This bill targets firearms which have been safely and responsibly owned by millions of American citizens for generations. The rifles this bill would label and ban as assault rifles are that which are primarily used by hunters and sports enthusiasts, and criminalizes legitimate California firearms owners.

I am concerned that this bill is attempting to attach the misnomer “assault weapon or assault rifle,” coined by gun control advocates who also use the term with the phrase “weapons of war (or “weapons from the battlefield”) have no business on our civilian streets,” in their efforts to frighten, confuse, or mislead the public. All of this in an attempt to ban hunting and recreational rifles which have long been part of our American tradition for many years.

Because this bill does nothing to deter crime, but would ban common hunting and recreational firearms, based on their shared characteristic of having a “detachable magazine”, I respectfully ask that you veto SB 374.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Stan Sniff", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Sheriff Stan Sniff, Riverside County

cc: California State Sheriffs' Association (CSSA)