



SHERIFF

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

October 1, 2013

Subject: Assembly Bill 231 – Request for Veto

Dear Governor Brown,

As the Sheriff of Riverside County, I serve 2.3 million of your citizens in your 4th largest county. I respectfully ask that you veto AB 231.

This bill further criminalizes storage of firearms in the home to an unreasonable degree from already existing and sufficient criminal law, given that “loaded firearms” are often possessed in our homes and other locations specifically for self-defense, and therefore must be loaded, and both reasonably positioned and instantly accessible in an emergency, where our citizens must defend themselves.

This bill fails to recognize this most fundamental role of firearms in our country since our earliest history as a nation, and therefore flies in the face of “self-defense” of our persons and our families from life-threatening emergencies. This is especially troublesome in many of our communities today where the fear of crime and being victimized is at an all-time high. This goes far beyond simply being a Second Amendment issue of lawful possession of a firearm.

Current criminal statutes and common tort liability already are more than adequate in dealing with the “*reasonableness*” of any access and / or proper storage of loaded firearms in keeping them away from children and others, including those prohibited by law from having access.

Because of the unreasonableness of AB 231, both Constitutionally and by good sense, I ask that you veto this bill as both unreasonable and harmful to our law-abiding citizens.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (951) 955-0147.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Stanley Sniff", written over a horizontal line.

Sheriff Stan Sniff, Riverside County

cc: California State Sheriffs' Association (CSSA)