

Be Safe. Shoot Straight. Fight Back!



March 15th, 2021

Honorable Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer Sr.
Chair of the Assembly Committee on Public Safety
1020 N. Street, Room 111
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 216 Peace officers: firearms: establishment serving the public

Position: Support

Dear Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer,

On behalf of the California Rifle & Pistol Association Inc. (CRPA), its members and supporters throughout California, I write to express our strong support of Assembly Bill 216 (AB 216). CRPA, founded in 1875, works tirelessly to defend the civil and constitutional rights of individuals who choose to responsibly own and use firearms. CRPA promotes the recreational shooting sports, and provides safety, education, and skills training to enable all persons a more enjoyable and safe recreational experience.

AB 216 clarifies rules for off-duty law enforcement officers, exempting them from prohibitions on carrying licensed concealed firearms into establishments open to the public. In California, off-duty peace officers often find themselves in situations where an event or location open to the public, such as sporting events, concerts, amusement parks, carnivals, and fairs, prohibits off-duty peace officers from carrying licensed concealed weapons into the venue. These policies prohibiting off-duty peace officers from carrying a licensed concealed firearm vary from venue to venue, as they are often made by private security companies, event organizers, and promoters.

Sadly, we live in a different world with crimes, civil unrest and active shooter events on the increase proper in-the-moment response is vital to critical intervention and often the difference between life and death. Because of their certification and commission as officers of the law, off-duty peace officers have the ability and are trained to respond to a serious situation that endangers life or property.

CRPA stands with our law enforcement officers who risk their lives every day to keep us safe. Making the law clear to allow them to be armed only makes them and our communities that much safer! For the foregoing reasons the California Rifle and Pistol Association stands in strong support of AB 216.

Respectfully Submitted,
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