



FLOOR ALERT

VOTE “NO” ON AB 1223!

Our organizations, which collectively represent hundreds of thousands of sportsmen and women, landowners and other wildlife enthusiasts across California, strongly urge you to VOTE “NO” on AB 1223 – legislation which would impose an additional 11% excise tax on the sales price of all sporting arms, firearm parts, and ammunition sold in California, as well as an additional excise tax of 10% on the sales price of all handguns – when the bill comes up for a vote on the Assembly Floor in the very near future.

- *AB 1223 would unjustifiably place the burden of funding efforts to address illegal gun violence solely on the backs of citizens who legally purchase and lawfully use firearms and ammunition.*
- *All Californians benefit from programs, education, and research intended to reduce illegal gun violence, and all Californians should help fund their implementation.*
- *AB 1223 would unjustifiably place an additional tax on firearms and ammunition when California has a budget surplus of \$75 billion and the proposed FY 2021-22 Budget already includes \$211 million for programs intended to remediate illegal firearms violence.*
- *In addition to sales tax, lawful hunters and recreational shooters already pay an 11% excise tax on long guns, ammunition, archery, and other hunting equipment as well as a 10% excise tax on handguns pursuant to federal Pittman-Robertson Act. But those dollars are allocated back to states to fund beneficial programs – including wildlife habitat projects that benefit game and non-game species.*
- *AB 1223 would double the excise tax law-abiding hunters and shooters already pay on all firearms and ammunition – effectively raising the total tax rate on these items to nearly 30%.*
- *By substantially raising the cost of guns and ammunition, AB 1223 would disproportionately impact the ability of the poor, and disadvantaged people of color to protect themselves and their loved ones and their equitable access to hunting and shooting sports – at a time when the Administration and the Legislature are seeking to increase participation in outdoor recreation and access for all Californians.*
- *AB 1223 would reduce the sales of sporting arms and ammunition, resulting in a reduction in funding available for wildlife habitat projects which benefit all Californians.*
- *AB 1223, as amended, uses nationwide data to argue it must take effect immediately in California.*
- *AB 1223 would do nothing to reduce criminal use of firearms but would inequitably impact California’s lawful hunters, our wildlife, and their habitats, those seeking to exercise their second amendment rights and disproportionately impact communities and Californians that are economically challenged attempting to secure their safety by exercising their second amendment rights.*

PLEASE VOTE “NO” ON AB 1223!