

*Be Safe. Shoot Straight. Fight Back!*



June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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

**RE: Senate Bill 715: Criminal law.**  
**Position: OPPOSITION**

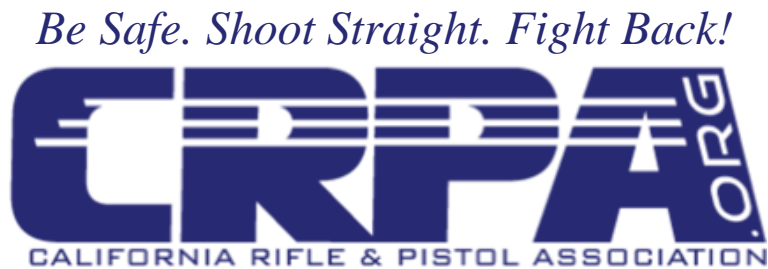
Dear Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer Sr.,

On behalf of the California Rifle & Pistol Association, Incorporated (CRPA), its members and supporters throughout California, I write to express our opposition of Senate Bill 715 (SB 715). 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.

SB 715 started out last session as SB 914, a bill to ‘clarify’ what a valid hunting license is as it relates to the purchase of a firearm. After multiple amendments the bill was morphed to include numerous ‘fixes’ that unnecessary restrict the purchase, access and transfer of firearms and firearm parts by law abiding citizens. SB 715 is such a convoluted mess even the author, nor his staff are able to explain what this bill does! Our opposition is therefore based on three main points.

First, do we really need legislation to define what a valid hunting license is? Doesn’t the date printed on the license do that? Second, after amendments and removal of subdivision (4) allowing loans with the express permission of the minor’s parents SB 715 will effectively kill any youth shooting sports program where the minor’s parents are not present. This will eliminate the use of waivers. Firearms could only be loaned by the parents directly to the minor. Therefore if the minor is to engage in any sort of shooting program, for example, youth camps or state Hunter Education Program classes their parent or legal guardian MUST be present.

Third, SB 715 raises the cost of eligibility checks on certain ammunition purchases and precursor firearms parts. For years the Department of Justice (DOJ) has been allowed to overcharge ‘fees’ for Dealer Record of Sales (DROS) transactions. These DROS fees acuminated into large surpluses that the DOJ then unlawfully used on activities not related to DROS.



Governor Newsom vetoed Senate Bill 914, the previous version of this legislation, stating in part; *“I am returning Senate Bill 914 without my signature. This bill would, beginning July 1, 2021, require the Department of Justice (DOJ) to verify the validity of a hunting license with the Department of Fish and Wildlife for a sale or transfer of a firearm to a person under 21 years of age. DOJ does not currently have the technology to verify the validity of hunting licenses. In order to meet the requirements of this bill, it would take DOJ 30 months to complete the information technology project. During this time, they would have to redirect existing application development resources, which could affect the work currently scheduled for seven previously enacted bills impacting the firearms information technology systems. I am concerned that adding an information technology project will impede DOJ's ability to perform the work it has already been tasked.”*

We agree with Governor Newsom. We would like to see the Department of Justice focus on far more important tasks on their plate like getting over 10,000 known armed violent felons off our streets and out of our communities!

The safety of Californians is at the very foundation of our organization. It has been our consistent goal to work toward common sense solutions regarding the issue of crime and firearm ownership. This can be done, however, without sacrificing our Constitutional rights and the ability of the law abiding to recreate, protect their families, to operate a lawful business, and provide firearms for sale at a price all Californians can afford. This is just a bad piece of legislation that attempts to do too much, a one size fits all attempt that does nothing to make California safer! For the foregoing reasons the California Rifle & Pistol Association Inc. stands in opposition to SB 715 and urges your no vote.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Roy M. Griffith Jr.  
Legislative Director  
California Rifle & Pistol Association, Incorporated  
[rgriffith@crpa.org](mailto:rgriffith@crpa.org)