

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SOME GREAT VICTORIES FOR THE 2021 SESSION, BUT THE BATTLE ISN'T OVER YET! TWO VERY BAD PIECES OF LEGISLATION LIVE ON—SB 264 AND AB 1223!

As Sacramento slowly opens and returns to at best a “new normal,” the battle to protect your Second Amendment rights, access to affordable ammunition and protecting our hunting heritage rages

on! We have defeated some bad bills already and, at least for now, kicked the can down the road on some others. The two worst bills we still face are Senate Bill 264 and the Zombie Bill that just won't die—Assembly Bill 1223!

SB 264 is yet another step in the process of banning the legal and lawful act of firearm and ammunition sales from all state property. This bill directly prohibits a state officer, employee, or operator, lessee, or licensee of any state-owned property, from contracting for, authorizing, or allowing the sale of any firearm, firearm precursor part, or ammunition on state property.



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Senator Min and his colleagues, like Asm. Levine, want to add another 11% tax on gun purchases, bringing the total sales tax where California ultimately profits on gun sales to well over 30%! Say it with me ... H-Y-P-O-C-R-I-S-Y!

This is a direct attack on the lawful process already in place and is unconstitutional. Clearly this will devastate gun shows, the for-profit and non-profit groups that attend, and those who exercise their rights to attend and purchase lawful items at events throughout California.

Gun shows and those with Federal Firearms Licenses (FFLs) are under attack in communities across

California. AB 893, introduced by Assemblymember Gloria and signed into law by Governor Newsom in 2019, bans all firearm sales at the Del Mar Fairgrounds and a similar bill (SB 281 by Senator Wiener) attempted to do the same at the Cow Palace in San Francisco County.

The anti-gun movement would like the public to believe that there are so called “gun show loopholes”

which allow prohibited persons to gain access to firearms just by attending a gun show. They would like the public to believe the lie that firearms and ammunition are freely traded to persons attending gun shows without any type of legal ramifications. Even the Department of Justice knows nothing can be further from the truth.

Assemblymember Gloria and Senator Wiener made the same dubious claims with their bad legislation. But when CRPA asked the bills' authors to produce evidence to support the statement—for two years—neither office, state or county official formally asked have produced anything substantiating their claims. Senator Min just picked up where the other two left off with the lies! He has been making the following statements in recent editorials to support his bad legislation. Statements like: “Gun shows essentially are flea markets for firearms and are a primary mechanism by which unlicensed, unregistered and illegal firearms are trafficked through secondary markets.” and “Gun shows also are a major conduit for the sale of ghost guns — gun precursor parts designed to be assembled into a firearm.” Oh, and my favorite, his attempt at being the morality police: “SB 264 is our chance to draw a line in the sand and to say loudly and clearly that the great state of California will not profit from the sale of guns and contribute to the endless cycle of gun violence any longer.” Yet he and his colleagues, like Asm. Levine, want to add another 11% tax on gun purchases, bringing the total sales tax where California ultimately profits on gun sales to well over 30%! Say it with me ... H-Y-P-O-C-R-I-S-Y!

Making these unsubstantiated claims which influence the decision-making process for legislators is unethical and we have publicly demanded they stop! What do you think the odds are of us getting these bought-and-paid-for politicians to just testify the truth and abide by the same rules we do? *Fat chance!*

If “they” played by the same rules we have to, Assembly Bill 1223 would have been killed on June 3, 2021! For weeks we united the troops—many of you called your representatives demanding a “no” vote! Recognizing they required the two-thirds, 54 votes, for AB 1223 to survive the Assembly deadline. We did it! We held them—Assemblymember Levine did *not* get the votes required! Our collation efforts convinced a few Democrats to vote “no,” and another 13 laid off the bill, not entering a vote at all! In an even semi-perfect world, this should have been the end of it! But *no*, not in Sacramento! The author requested an “urgency clause” that was ultimately granted in an Assembly Rules committee where we were denied the opportunity to even testify! So this bill lives on! No one can or will explain the “urgency” to tax law abiding citizens another 11% to exercise their Second Amendment rights. “Tax” at a time the state has a multi-billion-dollar surplus? “Tax” for a program that benefits all Californians, *not* just gun owners! At this time, the bill remains on the Assembly floor. It has come up at least twice a week, but the author has not brought it forward for vote. We will not back away from the fight on this one! We all must remain diligent and keep the pressure on!

If you recall, in his May Budget revision Governor Gruesome fully

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funded the Cal VIP program, now and for years to come, with all the magic money Biden gave California. So the “need” for this tax and the author’s original opening line vaporized. You would think that would be sound reason to pull the bill. No, the bill was amended heavily in Appropriations Committee and the language dedicating the funds raised to the Cal VIP program was removed! The bill has since undergone additional amendments and the funds are now set to go to a brand new account just created by Asm. Levine—the “Gun Violence Prevention, Healing and Recovery Fund.” You may ask, “Why should lawful gun owners be the only ones paying for a fund for actions caused

by criminals!!?” We are as well! Regardless, amendments of this scope should require this bill to return to the Committee on Revenue and Taxation and allow us an opportunity to provide testimony!

The only way we can beat these—and other bad legislation—is with your help! The time to get involved is **now!** Please call your representatives at their district office today and demand they vote “no” on SB 264 and AB 1223. We have Floor Alerts and Opposition letters for each bill for your reference and up-to-date statuses of all of the bills we are tracking on our website at **crpa.org**. Thank you all for joining us in this fight—and for your continued support! **CRPA**



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