



March 17th, 2022

Honorable Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer Sr.
1020 N Street, Room 111
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2156: Wicks: Firearms: manufacturers

Position: Opposed

Dear Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer Sr.,

On behalf of The California Rifle and Pistol Association Inc. (CRPA), I write to express our opposition to Assembly Bill 2156 (AB 2156). CRPA, founded in 1875, is a nonprofit membership and donor supported organization with tens of thousands of members throughout California. CRPA works tirelessly to defend the civil and constitutional rights of individuals to choose to responsibly own and use firearms and works to preserve their ability to protect their families, hunt, and enjoy competitive shooting events.

AB 2156 will prohibit an individual, regardless of federal licensure, from manufacturing firearms in California without being licensed by the state. The bill would also decrease the manufacturing threshold requiring state licensure from 50 or more firearms in a calendar year to 4 or more firearms in a calendar year. AB 2156 will also prohibit an individual, unless licensed as a firearm manufacturer, from manufacturing any firearm, precursor part, or magazine, by means of a 3D printer.

We are confused about the authors' intent for this legislation. In July 2016 Governor Brown signed into law Assembly Bill 857 (AB 857) the "ghost gun" serialization requirements. AB 857 already makes it illegal manufacture or to turn any "precursor part" into a firearm without proper registration and serialization from DOJ. This process includes a completion of a background check. Which begs the question; what is the true intent and necessity of banning individuals from manufacturing 'firearm precursor parts'. Additionally, as AB 2156 sets to prohibit the manufacture of precursor parts, while we are still waiting for the definition of what "parts" are worthy of being "firearm precursor parts"? Furthermore, there are already regulations which make it unlawful to manufacture large capacity magazines and 'zip' guns (cheap 'homemade' makeshift guns / penal code 17360 & 33600).

We must ask why legislate more confusing and unnecessary laws banning individuals from making firearm parts when this state does not appropriately penalize individuals who use firearms in the commission of violent crimes? This bad trend started in 2017 when Governor Brown signed into law Senate bill 620 which removed penalty enhancements on

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criminals who knowingly use firearms in the commission of violent crimes. Other bad legislation since has continued to roll back penalties on criminals and as a result we have seen crime rates go through the roof in California. All this while the list of over 10,000 known armed prohibited felons continues to grow in California. We feel California Department of Justice agents' time could be far better spent getting armed felons off our streets, and out of our communities.

While defending the constitutional rights of our citizens to own and use firearms, CRPA believes those who use firearms in the commission of violent crimes should be punished to the full extent of the law. We stand with law enforcement throughout California and put the safety of our citizens first. CRPA will continue to support sound legislation aimed at protecting our children, reducing crime, and getting criminals off our streets and out of our communities, this is no such piece of legislation.

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 without banning Californians' access to legal parts they need build or repair the equipment they choose to enjoy. For the foregoing reasons the California Rifle & Pistol Association Inc. stands in strong opposition to AB 2156 and urges you to vote no on this misguided legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roy M. Griffith Jr.
Legislative Director
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