



June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Honorable Senator Steven Bradford  
1020 N Street, Room 545  
Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 1621 Firearms: Gipson: unserialized firearms.

**Position: OPPOSED**

Dear Senator Bradford,

The California Rifle & Pistol Association Incorporated (CRPA), founded in 1875, is a nonprofit membership and donor supported organization with members and supporters throughout California. CRPA works tirelessly to defend the civil and constitutional rights of individuals to choose to responsibly own and use firearms and endeavors to preserve their ability to protect their families, hunt, and enjoy competitive shooting events.

CRPA is in strong opposition to Assembly Bill 1621 (AB 1621). AB 1621 is yet another step in the process of banning the legal and lawful act of citizens to build firearms, a tradition Americans have enjoyed since our nation was founded! If signed into law, AB 1621 would redefine a firearm precursor part as “any forging, casting, printing, extrusion, machined body or similar article that has reached a stage in manufacture where it may readily be completed, assembled or converted to be used as the frame or receiver of a functional firearm, or that is marketed or sold to the public to become or be used as the frame or receiver of a functional firearm once completed, assembled or converted. This bill would extend the definition of a firearm to include a firearm precursor part for the purposes of most criminal and regulatory provisions related to the possession, sale, and transfer of a firearm, including provisions which do not apply to a frame or receiver under existing law. The bill would repeal provisions relating to the sale of firearm precursor parts through a licensed precursor part vendor, and would prohibit the sale, transfer, or possession of an unserialized firearm precursor part, except as specified. This bill would repeal those provisions and instead prohibit a person from manufacturing or assembling an unserialized firearm. The bill would require any person in possession of an unserialized firearm to apply to the department for a unique mark of identification and to affix that mark to the firearm before July 1, 2023. The bill would explicitly prohibit the possession or transfer of a firearm without a serial number or mark of identification.”

If AB 1621 is passed it will result in unnecessary and costly lawsuits and task DOJ with even more unnecessary time-consuming mandates. It is an unconstitutional restriction on lawful conduct. The author does not consider the practicality nor the enormity of the task which would be required of the DOJ. Their current responsibilities include the tracking of all firearm purchases, the registration of all purchases and purchasers, background checks and waiting

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periods, plus similar procedures now for ammunition purchases and purchasers. Already when AB 879 is implemented in 2025, the DOJ will be tasked with recording a staggering number of transactions as firearms are made of literally dozens of parts. Now add to the list of responsibilities patrolling ‘gun shows’ all over California for ‘parts’ that are not even clearly defined! All this while the list of over 24,000 known armed prohibited felons continues to grow in California. 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 to turn any “precursor part” into a firearm without proper registration and serialization from DOJ (and completion of a background check). Which begs the question: what is the true intent and necessity of banning individuals access to firearm parts and ability to build their own firearms? As AB 1621 calls for this prohibition and further compounds the workload of DOJ, we are still waiting for the definition of what “parts” are worthy of being “firearm precursor parts?”

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 build firearms to protect their families, hunt, and enjoy competitive shooting events. For the foregoing reasons the California Rifle & Pistol Association Inc. stands in strong opposition to AB 1621 and strongly urges you to vote no on this misguided legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

A rectangular area containing a handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roy M. Griffith Jr.".

Roy M. Griffith Jr.  
Legislative Director  
California Rifle and Pistol Association, Inc.  
[rgriffith@crpa.org](mailto:rgriffith@crpa.org)