

I urge the Senate Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Committee to **approve** the common sense options and firearm restrictions contained in **SB 554** for the following reasons:

1. We have way too many guns being brandished in our society. Why do citizens need access to, and use of, lethal force? Is a lesser level of force appropriate?
2. The Second Amendment **right to** gun ownership includes the **responsibilities of** gun ownership. These responsibilities should include adequate training of concealed weapon permittees (which there is not now), and legal liability of the gun owner for:
 - a. loss of an owned firearm and any subsequent use of a stolen or lost weapon by any person,
 - b. safe and proper storage of the firearm (fingerprint trigger locks would help), and
 - c. possession, carrying, and use in accordance with the laws concerning the use of such a weapon. Here especially, ignorance of the law should be no defense. It must be a responsibility of gun owners to keep apprised of, and to obey, laws respecting the possession and use of guns.

Guns are dangerous items – the legal concept of strict liability concerning their proper possession and use should apply to their owners.

3. If supporters of the Second Amendment truly want to follow the original intent of The Framers, they should be allowed to have single-shot muskets – and that’s all. Civilian military-grade firepower, and owning more than a handful of guns, are inconsistent with the Constitution’s preamble value of “domestic tranquility.”

You have the unenviable task of ascertaining the will of the public on this issue. I do not recommend this lightly but, if you are uncertain as to where the people stand on this issue, put this proposal on the ballot, let the voters decide and the majority prevail. That’s how democracy works.

Thank you for your time and effort.

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