Submitter: S Bodman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure: SB348

I support this bill. We need to figure out ways to curtail gun violence and mass shootings. This bill would be one step in that direction. Yes, there would be new hoops to go through to buy guns, but they're small and wouldn't inconvenience most citizens. And those hoops put an emphasis on the responsibility aspect and serious nature of gun ownership. Guns are not toys. Like car ownership and driving, you have requirements, responsibilities and liabilities that come with them.

I like the requirement of the safety training course; the NRA itself historically, long ago, was about teaching gun safety. What happened?!

Also, I like the ban on high-capacity magazines. There is absolutely no reason for the average person to need those. You wouldn't hunt with them, and you can do without them if you're into target shooting for fun. Those are weapons designed for war. We're not fighting a war in the States, and if you're daydreaming about some war coming in the future, you likely have some personal issues that you need help with. If you're a collector of gun memorabilia, lawmakers could probably come up with a special permit for you to apply for to collect such things, and that permit could have extra requirements and responsibilities.

Also, I don't think this bill is the answer to everything. Tightening some controls is one aspect of a bigger solution. We need to look at and address a number of other aspects of health and culture. How do we keep raising these mass shooters? We need to study guns and gun violence more to get more data, so that we can establish policy based on robust data that will contribute to a robust solution that actually works, not ideology, partisanship and cherry-picking.