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I am writing today to express my opposition to a series of gun control legislation due to be heard soon. These pieces of legislation while well intended will do little or nothing to solve the violence we see today.

The 2018 FBI unified Crime Report notes that there were 14,123 homicides during the year. 1,515 involved knives or sharp objects (10.72%), 672 involved hands and feet (4.76%) and only 532 involved a rifle or shotgun (3.77%). Modern sporting rifled were only a small percentage of that total. This compares to 11,000 drunk driving deaths, 47,000 suicides and the 330,000 lives lost to abortions. One should also consider that the suicide rate in Australia remained constant after they adopted their gun banning legislation.

A CDC Study reported a 94% reduction in firearms fatalities from 1933-2017 while at the same time the private ownership and concealed carry of firearms increased dramatically. If firearms were to blame for the violence in our society one would assume that gun related deaths would be much higher due to the increase in legally owned guns.

HB 636 Access to Firearms Storage **OPPOSE**

This legislation would make myself and my wife significantly less safe since it would require us to store our self defense firearms in a way that would make them unavailable for use should our rural home be a target for thieves or home invaders.

HB 910 and HB 958 Untraceable Firearms. **OPPOSE**

This legislation is a solution looking for a problem. Americans have been making firearms of all types since Colonial times. Those firearms used in some shootings were manufactured and sold illegally. This bill would encumber all honest citizens who build firearms for the pleasure of having a hand-crafted firearm they built to use hunting and at the range.

HB 591 and HB1501 Lost or Regulated Firearm Reporting **OPPOSE**

What would this legislation accomplish except for creating a list of lost or stolen firearms? Rarely are firearms found at a crime traced back to the criminal. This law would at best trace the firearm back to the owner who reported it missing or stolen. On it's face it would create additional work for an already overburdened law enforcement agency with no significant benefit to public safety.

HB1104 Regulated Firearms Transfers **OPPOSE**

Apparently, designed to eliminate the fictitious gun show and private transfer/sale issue. Sales of firearms at gun shows are already regulated if the seller is in the business of selling firearms. Since most sellers at shows are licensed FFL's all sales are conducted with a background check. Those who are selling a few of their private collection are in the distinct minority. All online sales where the seller resides in a different state must be conducted with an FFL to FFL transfer and the required background check. All instate sales are done face to face and the seller can assess the purchaser and terminate the sale if they suspect the purchaser to be a prohibited person. this legislation would make it illegal for me to loan one of my firearms to a relative or friend. For instance, I and a group of my friends are at deer camp and my friends rifle malfunctions. Based on this legislation I could not loan my friend of many years my spare firearm unless I accompanied him to his deer stand are remained with him while he hunted. This legislation is burdensome and unnecessary.

HB 1257 Licensed Firearms Dealers **OPPOSE**

This bill would place an additional burden on already heavily regulated legal business establishments. It is excessive regulation with no real public benefit, and it is designed to force legal firearms retailers out of business.

HB 1261 Assault Long Guns and Copycat Weapons **OPPOSE**

As noted in my introduction firearms of this type (Modern Semi-automatic Sporting Arms) are involved in an incredibly small number of homicides. They have been the victim of a massive public relations campaign designed to dupe the public into believing that they are evil. If these types of firearms were a problem one would think that they would be involved in many more homicides. Estimates indicate that there were over 16 million modern semi-automatic sporting arms legally owned by American citizens. Politicians and the media have created a myth about these firearms which is patently untrue. John F. Kennedy once said, "The greatest enemy of the truth is very often not the lie-deliberate, contrives and dishonest – but the myth – persistent, persuasive and unrealistic." This is the myth developed around these firearms and it is totally unrealistic. Finally, this legislation is written so poorly that it would include most shotguns used for hunting and sport shooting along with most if not all semi-automatic firearms.