



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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June 28, 2023

The Honorable Anthony Portantino
Senate Appropriations Committee, Chair
State Capitol, Room 412
Sacramento, CA 95814

ASSEMBLY BILL 1483 (VALENCIA) SUPPORT Senate Appropriations Committee

Dear Senator Portantino:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 1483 (Valencia).

AB 1483 deletes the exemption that allows private persons to apply to purchase more than one firearm a month if it is a private party transaction unless the seller is required under state law or by court order to relinquish their firearms.

For nearly 50 years federal law has required firearms dealers to report all transactions in which an unlicensed person acquired two or more handguns at one time or during any five consecutive business days. This circumstance is referred to as "multiple sales" or "multiple purchases" and was implemented to monitor and deter firearms trafficking.

California began restricting multiple sales in 1999. Initially, California restricted multiple sales of concealable firearms but the law was subsequently expanded to include all firearms. However, among the exemptions to the prohibition on multiple sales, is an exemption for private party transactions. This loophole allows a person to buy one firearm within a 30-day period if they buy the firearm directly from a firearm dealer, but they can purchase as many firearms as they want within a 30-day period from a private party transaction.

Bulk firearm purchases can often be a significant warning sign that a buyer is a straw purchaser engaged in gun trafficking and/or acquiring weapons for organized criminal groups. Laws limiting multiple sales can help to reduce gun trafficking. Laws limiting multiple firearm sales may also help prevent people planning to perpetrate a mass shooting attack from being able to immediately acquire an arsenal of weapons for their attack.

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If California policy is to limit purchases of firearms to one per 30-day period it makes no sense to have an exemption for bulk purchases from a private party. Closing this loophole is appropriate and will help reduce gun violence.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Daniel Felizzatto in my Sacramento Legislative Office at (916) 442-0668.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gascón", written in a cursive style.

GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney

cc: Assembly Member Valencia