

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

GEORGE GASCÓN • District Attorney SHARON L. WOO • Chief Deputy District Attorney JOSEPH F. INIGUEZ • Chief of Staff DANIEL FELIZZATTO • Legislative Advocate
TAMAR TOKAT • Legislative Advocate

May 24, 2023

The Honorable Freddie Rodriguez California State Assembly 1021 O Street, Suite 5250 Sacramento, CA 95814

ASSEMBLY BILL 97 (RODRIGUEZ) SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Rodriguez:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 97.

AB 97 would require the Department of Justice (DOJ) to collect and report data on arrests made by law enforcement agencies for the following offenses related to firearms without a valid state or federal serial number:

- a) The number of misdemeanor arrests for buying, selling, receiving, or possessing a firearm with a removed or altered serial number, or for possessing a firearm without a valid serial number; and
- b) The number of misdemeanor arrests for failing to obtain a valid serial number for a manufactured or assembled firearm.

AB 97 would also require the DOJ to collect and report the following data:

- a) The disposition of those arrests for the above misdemeanor offenses, including information about whether an arrestee was booked, cited, or released from custody; and
- b) Starting on January 1, 2029, the disposition of prosecutions for the above misdemeanor offenses reported to the department, as specified, including whether charges were dismissed, whether the defendant was acquitted or convicted, or whether the charges were resolved on other grounds, including as a result of plea bargaining.

DOJ would be required to report this information to the Legislature by 1/1/25 and annually thereafter until 2033.

AB 97 will help law enforcement and the Legislature gain a more comprehensive picture of the proliferation of ghost guns in California and how criminals are being prosecuted.

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For this reason, our Office is pleased to support AB 97.

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,

GEORGE GASCÓN District Attorney