



Friday, September 7, 2018

The Honorable Governor Edmund G. Brown
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate Bill 221 – Request for VETO

Dear Governor Brown,

I write you today on behalf of Firearms Policy Coalition, a fiercely non-partisan nonprofit organization that promotes individual liberty and sound public policy through litigation, research, education, grassroots outreach, and direct advocacy.

Senate Bill 221 (SB 221) would, on and after January 1, 2020, prohibit the sale of firearms and ammunition at the Cow Palace located in District 1-A, as specified, and would thereby make a violation of that prohibition a misdemeanor. The bill would exclude from its provisions a gun buy-back event held by a law enforcement agency. And by creating a new crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

This all sounds familiar – because it is. In 2013, you vetoed the same bill¹ because you “encourage all District Agricultural Associations to work with their local communities when determining their operations and events.” That bill, as with SB 221 here, “totally pre-empts the Board of Directors of the Cow Palace from exercising its contracting authority whenever a gun show is involved.”

In SB 221 the Legislature has targeted for especially unfavorable treatment those who would have the audacity to peacefully exercise their fundamental, individual rights protected under the First, Second, and Fourteenth Amendments in a public forum (the Cow Palace).

We respectfully ask for your veto of Senate Bill 221.

Sincerely,

Brandon Combs
President

¹ See veto message for Senate Bill 475 (Leno) (2013 – 2014 Reg. Sess.), online at <http://bit.ly/2wSgtxo>.