



April 16th, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Skinner  
Chair, Senate Committee on Public Safety  
State Capital, Room 2031  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 701 (Jones) Firearms: Prohibited Persons**  
**Position: SUPPORT**  
**Location: Senate Public Safety**

Dear Senator Skinner,

The Firearms Policy Coalition, on behalf of its many members and supporters, respectfully submits our support to Senate Bill 701 (SB 701), submitted by Senator Jones, and asks for your **YES** vote on this measure. SB 701 would amend current law and end the prohibition on citizens with outstanding warrants to own or possess a firearm.

Under the current language of Penal Code §29800, an individual may be arrested and convicted of felony possession of a firearm solely on the basis of having an outstanding warrant, regardless of whether the individual has been notified of the warrant. The bill would prevent individuals, still technically innocent in the eyes of the law, from having their constitutional rights stripped away due to suspicion of illegal activity in the form of a felony warrant.

SB 701 upholds the “presumed innocent until proven guilty” principle of our legal system. If we are unable to uphold such principles, we as a Nation lose the moral footing that has been a cornerstone of our constitutional republic.

**For these and other reasons, FPC requests your “YES” vote on SB 701.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Thomson', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Richard R. Thomson  
Director of Government and Public Affairs  
Firearms Policy Coalition

**Please contact us at [policy@fpchq.org](mailto:policy@fpchq.org) or (916) 378-5785 if you have any questions or would like discuss this further.**