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By Tom Wiknich

Sacramento is really attacking the gun owners in California.

This week, the California Senate passed a bunch of sweeping new restrictions on gun owners, new laws that will now be taken up by the assembly for consideration.If the assembly passes these new laws, they’ll go to the governor for signature.These new laws are much further reaching than any the country has seen before.

One law they passed is just common sense.It’s a law that requires anyone that has a gun stolen; that they have to report it to law enforcement (seems to be common sense). Apparently, some people don’t bother to report their guns stolen.

Now the big new laws. The first is a new law encompassing a whole new batch of guns into the assault weapon classification.Despite the fact that there are already no allowed assault weapons in California, the unknowing legislature has no clue what really is an assault weapon. What they do know that by using the term, that a lot of people will support a ban on that so labeled gun.In this case, the expansion of the definition will take in any semi auto rifle that has a detachable magazine, as an assault weapon.Even though they don’t look like an assault weapon or work like a true assault weapon, they will now be included in the definition.I should note that they have exempted the same guns that shoot the small 22 lr cartridge as not being an assault weapon.

The truth of the matter is these new guns they will include in the definition, are not assault weapons.Many of these guns have been around for decades.They have not been used in city shootings.They have not been used during civil unrest.Gangs rarely use these type guns.They are rarely used even by police.These are guns that have been around for decades and used by hunters and target shooters.They also have passed a total ban on magazines that hold more than 10 rounds.Currently, you can no longer buy amagazine that holds more than ten rounds. However, the current law provided a grandfather protection to people that owned them before the ban that they could continue to own them.Now the new law will abolish the grandfather clause, and ban them completely.

What does the person do who owns an older gun that does not have a 10 round mag even available?What happens to the owner of a highly collectable gun that now the magazine will have to be turned in or he risks being a criminal by keeping the magazine?This is completely unfair to the collector or someone that is legal now and turns them into a criminal.Next, they are making the bullet button illegal.This is a device that a lot of manufacturers used to turn in previously labeled assault weapons, into a gun that was legal to own.Again, note the California legislature is incorrectly using the assault weapon label incorrectly.Using it to make people think they are banning assault weapons.Again, these are not assault weapons.However, the labeling of them as such gets unknowledgeable people to support the ban.

The bullet button modified certain rifles that use to have detachable magazines, into a rifle that you had to use a tool to release the magazine, thereby, slowing down the capability to reload another magazine quickly.While most gun owners thought the initial ban of the detachable mag as stupid, it was something they could live with via the bullet button. Right now, hundreds of thousands of these type guns have been sold over the years.I wouldn’t doubt that there may be almost a million of these type of guns out there.What happens to the owners of all these guns that are legal now, and will be illegal if the law passes?

Now,the next law: a law requiring people that buy ammo will have to sign for the ammo and dealers will have to have a special permit just to sell ammo. The dealers will have to keep a record of these ammo purchases.This is plain ridiculous.This will set up a huge black market and reduce sales tax revenue for that state.I see California residents whenever they go out of state, they will tell all their friends they are headed out and what ammo do they want them to pick up for them.I can envision even private citizens taking trucks out of state just to buy and bring back ammo for their friends.This is pure nonsense.

It’s not enforceable, andwill the attorney general and district attorneys actually prosecute these illegal sales of ammo?Millions and millions of rounds of ammo are sold in California every year.The tax income is huge to the state.Plus,it helps keep businesses open.If you are a gun owner, do you think all the Walmart stores will get permits to sell ammo anymore?I doubt it.

There are other laws they are considering, as well. Many of these laws do nothing except turn current law abiding gun owners into criminals.These are people who have never used their gun in an illegal action, and who just believe in the 2nd amendment to the constitution that guarantees every individual the right to own a gun.These laws are just more of the constant attack by liberals that mostly have no clue as to what the actual consequences of the law will be. It does support their ultimate goal and belief that no one needs a gun in our civilized society.To those people, I ask how many of them will be there to protect me when I’m unarmed and being attacked by a bad guy with a knife, and physically unable to fight him off.Will you guarantee that you will have someone there to protect me?Not that someone will pick me up and take me to the hospital, or even worse, to the morgue.All these bans restrict mine and millions of other people to have the gun of our choosing to protect ourselves.Many veterans who have fought for our country now will not be allowed certain type guns.Guns being banned right now would be best used in times of civil unrest.Civil riots where even the police officers can’t stop the violence.We’ve seen it breaking out all over the country in the last few years.We have a right to own these guns to protect ourselves and our families.The police cannot be everywhere.It’s impossible.Now more than ever, the citizens of this country are at risk of bad guys wanting to hurt or kill us.Possible terror attacks.Possible civil riots. All they can think to do is to make it harder and harder for us to protect ourselves.We have to depend on ourselves.Right now, millions of people own millions of these guns.They are owned responsibly and only sit in a safe ready for use, only if needed.Not for use in an offensive manner, but ready for our defense.

In conclusion, if you don’t accept any new gun restrictions, the time is now.Call our state representatives now. Call the governor’s office now.Add to your call list the leader of the assembly.Tell them, these new laws accomplish nothing in stopping gun violence.Do not pass these new laws.

I’m Tom Wiknich, and that’s what I think.I’d like to know what you think.If you have any comments about this editorial, or would like to discuss or recommend a topic, I’d like to hear from you.Please email them to info@kzgn.net.