

I'm David Douglas with the first of a two part community comment on an upcoming California ballot initiative sponsored by lieutenant governor Gavin Newsome. Mr. Newsome who was one of the main backers of the highly criticized proposition 47, now presents an initiative with the appealing ballot name of the "California Safety for All Act.

I must acknowledge an article from the Los Angeles Association of Deputy District Attorneys (ADDA) titled "The Ammo Police is not the Answer to the Criminal Use of Firearms." I use excerpts from the article, verbatim, in portions of the comments during both parts of reviewing the California Safety for all Act."

California Safety for All does have some good portions and I wish to credit those first:

*Felons are prohibited from working in gun stores.

*Theft of a firearm is a felony. (Sadly, this is primarily an attempt to stop the damage caused by Proposition 47 which made the theft of any firearm valued at less than \$900 a misdemeanor.) This should never have occurred. It can and should be corrected with a different, independent ballot measure.

*It requires that stolen guns be reported to law enforcement.

*It criminalizes straw purchases that put the guns in the hands of the domestic terrorists responsible for the San Bernardino massacre.

If I believed that the California Safety for All Act would do what the name implies, I would be supporting it wholeheartedly. It won't. Other portions of this act will have a detrimental effect on law abiding gun owners. The changes to state law will burden law enforcement, while potentially criminalizing anyone who owns any firearm magazine with a capacity greater than 10 rounds.

The goal of this initiative and other initiatives is to make it more difficult to purchase a gun. It would also make it more difficult and expensive to buy or sell ammunition in the state of California.

Private party importation of ammunition into California would be a crime. This should make for interesting questions at the agricultural inspection stations ("Hi, do you have any fruits, vegetables or ammunition in your vehicle today? May I check your vehicle please.") However., since ammunition is still legal to possess law abiding citizens will primarily feel the impact of this initiative. Felons who are committing crimes are not worried about following the law.

I will cover the negative impacts of the California Safety for All Act in greater detail when I next join you on Thursday, March 10th. As always, I urge you to take the time to research measures and candidates before election day.

Lastly, please vote. You will have to live with the outcome and failing to vote just increases the likelihood that what you don't want will happen.