

JED HENDRICKSON
141 LA VISTA GRANDE SANTA BARBARA, CA 93103
805-963-4705 805-564-8296 (FAX)

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County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors: Salud Carbajal, fax 568-2534; Janet Wolf, fax 568-2283; Doreen Farr, fax 568-2883. 686-8133; Peter Adam, fax 346-8498, 737-7703; Steve Lavagnino, fax 346-8404

Dear Elected Representatives:

Re: Oppose AB 1014

I urge the County Board of Supervisors to oppose AB 1014 - this badly written bill is a knee-jerk reaction to criminal violence. It removes protection granted by law to California citizens and the bill does not involve mental health professionals - it only creates judicial proceeding with no doctors involvement.

AB 1014 would allow anyone to ask a court for a "Gun Violence Restraining Order" and "firearms seizure warrant" against California gun owners. Under the proposed law, California gun owners could face a loss of their gun rights and confiscation of their firearms without prior warning.

The subject of a restraining order and confiscation warrant may not even know they have been accused until there's a SWAT team at their door. According to the bill's text, courts would be required to issue a restraining order if a person – who doesn't even have to know the target of the order – submits a form saying that a gun owner "poses a significant risk of personal injury to himself, herself, or others by owning or possessing" guns.

The bill's language is ripe for abuse. Cyber-bullies could simply go on Facebook or Twitter, grab a photo of you and your gun, and slap it on a restraining order request. There's no criminal or civil penalty for filing false or vexatious reports and no provision for the recovery of damages and someone's loss of rights. AB 1014 would make it open season on California gun owners.



AB 1014 would not have stopped the recent violence in Isla Vista. Even if AB 1014 were law at the time of Rodger's killing spree, the bill does not require the seizure of knives like those Rodger used to kill many of his victims

AB 1014 is bad law, poorly written and will have unintended consequences far beyond the stated intent of the bill.

I urge the County Board of Supervisors to not support AB 1014.

Jed Hendrickson
141 La Vista Grande
Santa Barbara, CA 93103

