



June 6, 2019

Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer
Chairman
Assembly Public Safety Committee
1020 N Street, Room 111
Sacramento CA 95814

Re: SB 220 (Hill) Firearms dealers – OPPOSE

Dear Chairman Jones-Sawyer:

The California Waterfowl Association regrets that it must oppose SB 220 (Hill), which has been assigned to your committee.

California Waterfowl works to restore wetlands, and to maximize the food and habitat value of existing wetlands for both local breeding populations and migratory waterfowl. California Waterfowl believes that hunters are the driving force for wetland conservation. CWA works to ensure that Californians have adequate access to hunting lands, and that regulations and laws don't stifle responsible, ethical hunting.

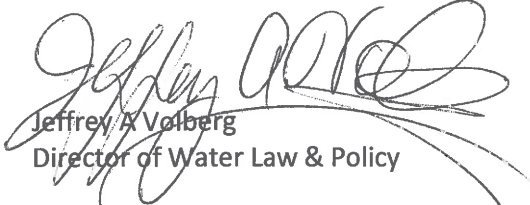
Although California already has some of the strictest laws in the country regarding how dealers must store and secure firearms, SB 220 would add additional requirements requiring expensive additional concrete and steel barriers to prevent thieves from using vehicles to break into their facilities. The bill was introduced as a reaction to a series of break-ins over the past couple of years using vehicles as rams.

When a local gun store owner in Rocklin, California put up a concrete barrier in front of his store, he was told by Rocklin city code enforcement officials to remove it. If you sign this bill into law, gun store owners will have similar problems with landlords and city officials, who will complain that the barriers are not consistent with local codes. The requirements of this bill will also require retrofits of most stores with very expensive security systems, which may be uneconomical.

California Waterfowl supports making California communities safer and keeping firearms out of the hands of criminals. California law already requires that firearms be secured on the gun store's business premises with a steel rod or cable or in a locked fireproof safe or vault. Gun store owners should be able to decide for themselves how to protect their inventory from thieves who use vehicles to break into their facilities. Allowed flexibility, they will be able to arrive at a protection method that meets their needs and the requirements of landlords and local ordinances.

California Waterfowl urges your "No" vote on this bill. If you would like further information about California Waterfowl and its conservation programs, please contact Jeffrey Volberg at (916) 217-5117 or jvolberg@calwaterfowl.org or Mark Hennelly at (916) 648-1406 or mhennelly@calwaterfowl.org.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A Volberg
Director of Water Law & Policy

