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California Civil Liberties Advocacy  
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Monday, April 2, 2018

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Assembly Member Evan Low  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0028

RE: **Opposition to Assembly Bill 1968**

Dear Assembly Member Low:

We are writing to express our opposition to Assembly Bill 1968. While the CCLA strongly supports policies to protect the public from dangerous people obtaining or possessing firearms, we feel that the language of AB 1968 goes well above and beyond what is necessary to achieve those ends.

The language of AB 1968 will make it far too easy to sidestep due process in depriving a California resident of their right to own and possess a firearm, especially in situations where someone may issue a false report over petty arguments and other differences. Merely being reported and detained does not in and of itself deem a person dangerous to the public.

Instead of lifetime prohibition, we propose creating a post-release mental health evaluation, the costs of which should be borne by the state or the party bearing the burden of proof. We also propose that instead of lifetime prohibition, a 10-year prohibition should be established with a program for reassessment at the end of the 10-year period. We also propose that the standard of proof in such cases should be clear and convincing, rather than a preponderance of the evidence.

*"Indifference to personal liberty is but the precursor of the state's hostility to it."  
— Justice Kennedy, U.S. Supreme Court*

Please do not hesitate to contact our office with any questions.

Yours truly,



Matty Hyatt

Legislative Advocate for CCLA

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