



#### IN THEIR OWN WORDS

*"The vast majority of Americans want some type of commonsense control on military-style automatic long guns and magazine capacities, yet Congress doesn't take action. The state legislature doesn't take action because the majority of legislators are bought and paid for by the gun lobby."*

Gary Brown, Knoxville, in the 15 July Letter to the Editor in the Knoxville News Sentinel

*"Guns are responsible for about half of all violent deaths – nearly a quarter-million each year."*

Izumi Nakamitsu, UN disarmament chief, blaming guns for the deaths inflicted by war, crime, and corrupt governments while announcing the UN's "global week of action"

*"The Sierra Club supports an assault weapons ban, stricter gun control measures including background checks, and banning lead in ammunition...assault weapons, loose background checks, gun-sale loopholes, and lead based ammunition are causing great harm to society."*

Sierra Club 26 April article "Where the Sierra Club Stands on Gun Control"

*"The Second Amendment is a shield for every American... And it's a shield for the most vulnerable. It's the great equalizer. It gives every American the power to defend themselves and their families against any evil in our midst."*

Vice President Mike Pence at the Annual NRA Convention in Dallas

*"...You give your time, your energy, your vote and your voice to stand strong for those sacred rights given to us by God, including the right to self-defense..."*

President Donald Trump at the Annual NRA Convention in Dallas

#### DICK'S SPORTING GOODS AND THE SECOND AMENDMENT

In response to the manic cries for "more gun control" after the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, FL the CEO of Dick's Sporting Goods caved. He unilaterally took away the Second Amendment rights of 18-20 year old Americans by refusing to sell them guns and ammunition. If that was bad enough he directed that all Dick's stores remove certain types of those scary looking semi-automatic rifles from their shelves and then took the inane action to destroy the entire stock of these firearms along with their accessories. Now it has been learned that Dick's has fully joined the gun control crowd.

Dick's has hired three new federal lobbyists to promote gun control in Congress. The lobbyists' registration documents state that they were hired for lobbying "related to gun control". After this lobbying became public the national shooting sports Foundation voted to expel Dick's from the trade association. Additionally several prominent gun manufacturers have stated that they will no long do business with Dick's.

I have been doing business with Dick's for years and I viewed the new store in Oak Ridge as a positive thing. No longer!! If Dick's supports the freedom sapping, anti- Second Amendment crowd, and is doing it in full knowledge that they are going to lose customers, then fine, they lost me.

#### S.2607 - EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDER AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT OF 2018

Sources inside the U.S. Senate are now telling us that we may not have seen the last gun control measure to be considered this year.

At a time when Chuck Schumer and his anti-gun minions are blocking reciprocity, hearing protection, and veterans' rights legislation, the gun-hating zealots are trying to force

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consideration of a particularly nasty piece of legislation.

That bill, S. 2607, would try to force every state to adopt gun confiscation measures.

Gun Confiscation Orders are sometimes sugar-coated as "red-flag laws" or "extreme risk protection orders."

But make no mistake about it: They are nothing more nor less than efforts to strip Americans of their gun rights through secret star-chamber proceedings -- in which the gun owner is barred from participation.

Under this Rubio-Nelson abomination, the police or an angry "ex" could convene an Orwellian "secret hearing" to strip you of your constitutional rights without giving you a chance to be heard -- in what is otherwise known as an ex parte hearing. [proposed section 3042(b)(3)]

The secret hearing would find you "guilty" -- not by a standard of "beyond a reasonable doubt" ... or not because there was probable cause to believe you had committed a crime ... or not even because there was probable cause to believe you would commit a crime.

Rather, you would be stripped of your rights based on a subjective determination that you presented a "significant danger" to someone, including yourself. [proposed section 3042(b)(2)(A)(iii)]

And, incidentally, the bill strips state courts of all discretion about whether they can decline to take away your rights.

We have some experience with these "star-chamber" proceedings in which only the accuser is in the room. In those cases, the judge almost always issues the order.

In a study of Gun Confiscation Orders in Seattle, the court granted 28 of 29 applications.

A Massachusetts legislator stated, with respect to much-more-limited domestic violence ex parte orders (where only the accuser is represented) that the courts "don't ask many questions."

The first time a gun owner learns about the proceedings is when a police SWAT Team, that normally serves high risk arrest warrants for violent criminals, arrives at his door to immediately seize his previously lawfully-owned firearms.

So here's what happens when a Gun Confiscation Order is issued in your name: the police or SWAT team arrives at your door to ransack your home and, if you resist, to arrest or even shoot you and your family.

Every version of Gun Confiscation Order legislation would arm them with a search warrant. And, if you think they're going to take your word on the number of guns you have, you'd better think again.

Sometime after your constitutional rights are suspended without due process, you will theoretically have the "right" to spend \$10,000 to try to convince a court it made a mistake. This is a fool's errand.

As always, police and liberal academics will assure us that they will implement their new powers "responsibly."

Already, there have been a LOT of Fake News articles pushing for Gun Confiscation Orders, including biased pieces in USA Today and even the Fox News network.

Anti-gun leftists see an opportunity to finally "move the needle" on gun control, and they are not going let this opportunity slip away.

Thankfully, however, there is a wide coalition of groups that are opposing the suspension of the Constitution for persons who have not committed any crime.

Gun Owners of America is joined by groups such as the ACLU, which, in Rhode Island, issued a 14-page analysis which concluded these laws raise "some serious due process concerns."

After a fixed number of days, S. 2607 generously allowed you to spend \$10,000 and up for attorneys and expert witnesses -- in an effort to convince a court that it made a mistake.

Few gun owners have the resources to mount such a challenge, and few courts are willing to reverse themselves on these types of issues.

If you look at the specifics of S. 2607, paragraph-by-paragraph, it is very similar to bills being hawked in the state capitals as the most extreme anti-gun element of the anti-gun agenda.

So there is every indication that the language of this bill ultimately originated in the backroom of Michael Bloomberg's offices.

We saw with the anti-gun Fix NICS language that when it was stalled in Congress, the Republican leadership attached it to the must-pass omnibus spending bill (which passed in March).

So gun owners have our work set out for us. The next must-pass spending bill will be voted on before October 1.

Gun owners need to let their senators know how toxic this bill is, or there is a chance that we will receive yet another anti-gun "knife in the back" in September.

So please contact your Senators to oppose S. 2607 in all forms, whether as a standalone bill or as an amendment to a larger bill.

In liberty,  
**Michael Hammond**  
Legislative Counsel  
Gun Owners of America  
May 17, 2018

## SHOULD WE SURRENDER ON BUMP STOCKS?

**By David Deming**

In the aftermath of the October 1, 2017 mass shooting in Las Vegas, the Justice Department has proposed a new rule reclassifying "bump stocks" as machine guns. President Trump has condemned bump stocks, and even the National Rifle Association has called for "additional regulations" on "devices designed to allow semi-automatic rifles to function like fully-automatic rifles." The new rule would require that all existing bump stocks either be turned in or destroyed without compensation.

The proposed ban on bump stocks ought to be resisted. It

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opens the door to outright confiscation of all semi-automatic firearms by executive order. This is the very sort of abuse that initiated the American Revolution.

Installation of a bump stock does not transform a semi-automatic firearm into a machine gun. A machine gun is defined by statutory law (26 USC 5845b) as "any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger." There is no bump stock in which this happens. Bump stocks merely facilitate rapid fire. Every time a gun with a bump stock is discharged, there is a single function of the trigger. That is why on ten separate occasions, between 2008 and 2017, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives issued letters concluding that bump stocks "did not qualify as machine guns" and were perfectly legal to manufacture, sell, and possess.

Neither is a bump stock required for rapid firing of a semi-automatic firearm. Any semi-automatic gun can be bump fired. Think about what that means. If the Executive Branch of the federal government can arbitrarily declare that a certain type of stock turns a semi-automatic firearm into a machine gun because it facilitates bump firing, the Executive can also reclassify all semi-automatic guns as machine guns, because all semi-autos are capable of bump firing. It's the realization of Dianne Feinstein's dream of "turn 'em all in." If this is allowed to stand, the precedent will have been established for confiscating all semi-automatic firearms without a single law being enacted or even deliberated.

The proposed bump stock ban is also an unconstitutional "taking." The Justice Department wants to compel everyone in possession of a bump stock to turn it in or destroy it without compensation. This is an explicit violation of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, which prohibits the taking of private property without just compensation.

There is no compromise involved or proposed here. In return for a ban on bump stocks, we get exactly nothing – the same situation we have been through now for eighty-four years. Despite the fact that the Constitution forbids any "infringement" of our right to keep and bear arms, we have endured repeated trespasses. In less than a hundred years, we have been subjected to the National Firearms Act of 1934, the Gun Control Act of 1968, the Brady Act of 1993, and countless state restrictions on our rights. If we would be honest with ourselves, we would admit that half the Second Amendment is already gone.

Should we surrender on bump stocks? No. Hell no. As a speaker at the recent gun control march on Washington, D.C. admitted, "when they give us that inch, that bump stock ban, we will take a mile." Appeasement only encourages more depredation and encroachment. Never give up your weapons!

David Deming is professor of arts and sciences at the University of Oklahoma and author of the series Science and Technology in World History.

Read more: [https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/03/should\\_we\\_surrender\\_on\\_bump\\_stocks.html#ixzz5CIPhlcTo](https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2018/03/should_we_surrender_on_bump_stocks.html#ixzz5CIPhlcTo)

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