

Hello,

My name is Donald Macalady and I am a founding member of Hunters Against Gun Violence. We are all hunters, former hunters and/or gun owners. We cherish our right to use firearms in a safe and responsible manner to pursue recreation and provide food for our families. We believe in the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution as interpreted by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Court affirmed that the right to keep and bear arms is not absolute or unlimited, but is subject to regulation. Such regulations already include concealed weapons prohibitions, limits on the rights of felons and the mentally ill, laws forbidding the carrying of weapons in certain locations, laws imposing conditions on commercial sales, and prohibitions on the carrying of dangerous and unusual weapons.

I am here to urge you to reject HB1015, another attempt to repeal Colorado's 2013 law that limits the size of magazines for weapon sold in Colorado. This law has the potential to prevent at least some of the all-too-frequent incidents that have resulted in multiple deaths and injuries. It is not a perfect law, nor does it prevent

persons intent on causing extensive human misery from illegally importing large-capacity magazines from other states or obtaining grandfathered magazines from irresponsible gun owners.

What are the reasons given for the repeal of this law? Some say it violates their 2nd amendment rights. This is utter nonsense, as the courts, both federal and state, have repeatedly stressed that the 2nd Amendment does not create a carte-blanc right for anyone to possess any or all of the firearms they choose. I am an avid hunter and a gun owner, and I support the 2nd amendment, but this amendment does NOT give me the right to possess any firearm, anywhere, anytime. It does not say that I have the right to use a large-capacity magazine simply to increase my recreational pleasure. And it should not. Those who claim that the 2nd amendment is violated by this or any other of Colorado's gun safety regulations are simply wrong, and they know it.

The other common reasons given for the repeal of this law are that it is unenforceable, and/or ineffective, and/or that it interferes with personal freedom. These are also a spurious set of illogical arguments based on a failure to properly consider public safety, which a responsibility of government. The first AMENDMENT,

PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE SECOND, ASSURES THE RIGHT OF ALL CITIZENS TO LIVE IN A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT and it is largely unenforceable. Also, We have speed laws, anti-littering laws, laws that require hunting and fishing licenses and regulate seasons, laws that create wilderness areas, prohibit lewd behavior in public...all are largely unenforceable, sometimes ineffective, and all interfere with personal freedom. Yet we do not see a parade of persons every legislative session trying to repeal these laws. This is largely because repeal of these laws is not supported by an industry and its puppet organization, the NRA, that manufactures weapons and weapons systems. These industries and the NRA generously support efforts to repeal ANY restrictions on the use and sale of weapons, regardless of the threats to public safety. They are willing and anxious that we spend large amounts of public money to oppose their efforts, but cry out that the laws they want to repeal are expensive!

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Another reason I have heard for increasing the magazine size limit from 15 to 30 rounds is that many weapons are manufactured and ordinarily supplied with

30 round magazines. This is yet another argument that we should sacrifice public safety in the interest of gun manufacturers or those seeking the adrenalin-rush of rapidly firing 30 rounds of ammunition at a target. This makes no sense whatsoever. How much adrenalin is equivalent to 15 additional rounds fired at persons in a movie theatre or at a political rally?

I know some of the elected persons on this committee will vote to repeal this law. So perhaps I am wasting my breath. But you, of all persons, should act in the best interests of the people of Colorado. Voting to repeal this law is precisely the opposite, and is at best, voting in the interest of a manufacturing industry and a few fanatic gun owners who are paranoid about their OWN personal safety and the abridgement of their so-called rights.

Thanks for your attention.