

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS

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AND JANICE HAHN

Support for Key Federal Gun Safety Legislation: Banning the Sale of Assault Weapons and High-Capacity Magazines and Raising the Age to Purchase Assault Weapons

In 1994, Senator Diane Feinstein, with then-Senator Joseph R. Biden, introduced legislation to ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines. The ban, inexcusably, expired after it was put in place for a decade. Twenty-nine years later, on the heels of three mass shootings in the State of California in one week alone, Senator Feinstein re-introduced the “Assault Weapons Ban Act” with Senate Bill (S.) 25, the “Assault Weapons Ban of 2023” to ban the sale, transfer, manufacture and importation of military-style assault weapons, high-capacity magazines, and other high-capacity ammunition feeding devices. Additionally, Senator Feinstein also introduced S. 14 “Age 21 Act”, legislation that would raise the minimum age to purchase assault weapons from 18 to 21.

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BARGER	_____
HAHN	_____

This legislation complements motions the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) passed as recently as the Board meeting following the mass shooting in Monterey Park to ensure the County is safe from gun-related violence.

We will continue to see gun-related violence causing mass damage, trauma, and harm, if we do not take the necessary steps on all levels of government and support key gun safety bills such as the one Senator Feinstein re-introduced. Statistics show that when the ban was in place, mass shootings significantly decreased. When the ban expired and these weapons were easily accessible again, the number of victims and survivors of mass shootings substantially increased.

Living in the United States of America means being at risk of becoming a victim or a survivor of mass shooting every day. Thoughts and prayers will only take us so far. Victims, survivors, and their families rightfully demand those in leadership to do more and this Board will do everything it can to support efforts on all levels.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors

1. Direct the Chief Executive Office's Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations branch to send a five-signature letter to Senator Dianne Feinstein with a copy to the Los Angeles County Congressional delegation in support of:
 - a. S. 25 (Feinstein) and similar measures that would ban the sale, transfer, manufacture, and importation of military-style assault weapons, high-capacity magazines, and other high-capacity

ammunition feeding devices.

- b. S. 14 (Feinstein) and similar measures that would raise the minimum age to purchase assault weapons from 18 to 21.

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