



PREVENTING VIOLENCE
AND DEVELOPING
YOUTH LEADERS

January 26, 2016

Assemblymember Santiago
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0064

Re: AB 1674 (Santiago) Limit Firearm Purchases to One Per Month

Dear Assemblymember Santiago:

Youth ALIVE! is a violence prevention and intervention organization that helps young people become leaders and advocates for the change they would like to see in their communities through our Teens on Target Program, mentors and supports healing for young people who have been violently injured through our Caught in the Crossfire program, and works with families grieving in the wake of a homicide through our Khadafy Washington Project.

A national leader in youth violence prevention and federal technical assistance provider for hospitals and communities seeking to reduce gun injuries, we support AB 1674 and implore you to limit firearm purchases, including long guns, to one per month. This restriction is the same one in place for handguns.

Over the past ten years, Californians have typically purchased more long guns than handguns, including 538,149 guns in 2013. Of the 26,682 crime guns entered into the California Department of Justice's (DOJ) Automated Firearms Systems database in 2009, 11,500 were long guns. Furthermore, DOJ has found that half the illegal firearms recovered from prohibited persons are long guns.

A 2007 University of Pennsylvania report to the National Institute of Justice found that a quarter of all guns used in crimes were purchased as part of a multiple-gun sale, and that guns purchased in bulk were up to 64% more likely to be used for illegal purposes than guns purchased individually.

Youth ALIVE!'s work is steeped in the aftermath experienced by people injured by guns and the left to grieve after homicides. We know the damage gun violence can do to people and their communities and we are always searching out the best way to prevent that violence from happening, or from happening again. Youth ALIVE! supports AB 1674. Please limit firearm purchases, including long guns, to one per month.

Sincerely,

Anne Marks
Executive Director

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Youth ALIVE is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. Our Tax ID is 94-3143254.