



PREVENTING VIOLENCE  
AND DEVELOPING  
YOUTH LEADERS

January 15, 2016

Assemblymember Levine  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Room 2141  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0010

Assemblymember Ting  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0019

**Re: AB 1664 (Levine & Ting) Close the Bullet Button Loophole in Assault Weapons Ban**

Dear Assemblymembers Levine and Ting:

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 1664 and implore you to remove the bullet button loophole in the assault weapon ban. This is an opportunity to stem the tide of the gun violence.

AB 1664, by Assemblymembers Marc Levine (D-Marin County) and Phillip Ting (D-San Francisco), would close a loophole in law that allows the gun industry to evade the assault weapons ban in California. Specifically, AB 1664 will prohibit the use of a "bullet button" or other tool that allows for easily changeable magazines on all military-style assault weapons. Guns equipped with a bullet button are functionally the same as illegal assault weapons, but they are sold legally in California. This kind of assault rifle was used in the San Bernardino mass shooting last month and a shooting at Los Angeles International Airport in 2013.

California law bans assault rifles with magazines that are detachable by hand, in order to prevent shooters from reloading quickly and inflicting mass damage. The development of the bullet button clearly exploits this provision in California law. Instead of removing a magazine by hand, the bullet button allows the shooter to simply press a recessed button that is accessible using the tip of a bullet or other small tool.

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

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

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ANNE C. MARKS  
Executive Director  
Youth ALIVE!  
Oakland, CA

that violence from happening, or from happening again. Youth ALIVE! supports AB 1664. Please remove the bullet button loophole in the assault weapon ban.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anne Marks', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anne Marks  
Executive Director