



Office of the San Diego City Attorney

Mara W. Elliott
City Attorney

May 6, 2022

The Hon. Brian Maienschein
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill 2239; 10-year gun ban expansion - Support

Dear Assemblymember Maienschein:

The San Diego City Attorney's Office offers its unequivocal support for your bill adding elder abuse and child endangerment to the list of crimes that warrant a 10-year ban from owning or possessing firearms.

Every day, my Office sees the harm done to children and to elders. Currently, our laws prohibit individuals from owning guns for 10 years after they are convicted of assaulting a stranger, but not when they abuse children or seniors. This makes no sense.

Your bill would bring about a significant change to our Penal Code. As prosecutors, we know there is a strong correlation between domestic violence and subsequent gun violence.

In addition, numerous studies have found that abused children who are physically or emotionally abused are twice as likely to attempt suicide. By removing guns from their homes, we will take away the most lethal means of suicide.

Gun violence poses a grave threat to our most vulnerable citizens – children and seniors. I thank you for your work on AB 2239, and my office strongly urges passage of the bill.

Sincerely,

Mara W. Elliott
San Diego City Attorney