

FOIA MARKER

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Original OA/ID Number: CF 868				
Row: 21	Section: 2	Shelf: 7	Position: 3	Stack: V

President Clinton will fight to
protect the assault weapons ban
March 22, 1996

"It would be deeply wrong for Congress to repeal this assault weapons ban and take the side of the Washington gun lobby over the interests of the law-enforcement people of this country and the law-abiding citizens of this country."

- President Clinton, March 21,
1996

Choose kids and cops over the Washington gun lobby. Too many police officers have lost their lives outgunned by violent criminals armed with assault weapons. Too many children have been killed by violent criminals spraying a rain of bullets from assault weapons. The bottom line is simple: Will America stand with the police officers who risk their lives for us, or will we cave in to the pressure tactics of the Washington gun lobby?

The assault weapons ban is working. The assault weapons ban is taking 19 deadly assault weapons and their copies off our streets. Before the ban, the number of assault weapons involved in crimes was rising steadily. But in just the first year since the ban took effect, the number of assault weapons traced to crimes has dropped eighteen percent. (ATF)

Make no mistake about it: these are weapons of war. Assault weapons are the weapons of choice for gang leaders and drug dealers. They are designed for one reason only: close-quarter, rapid-fire killing.

Protects the rights of hunters and sportsmen. The assault weapons ban explicitly protects the rights of hunters and target shooters to enjoy their sport. For the first time ever, the ban specifically exempts over 650 hunting and recreational guns. No law-abiding hunter will have his gun taken away.

America's police officers asked for the assault weapons ban. Every single major law enforcement organization in the country fought for the ban, including:

- National Association of Police Organizations
- Fraternal Order of Police
- International Union of Police Associations
- National Sheriffs Association
- International Association of Chiefs of Police
- Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives
- National Narcotic Officers Associations Coalition
- International Brotherhood of Police Officers
- Major Cities Chiefs
- Police Foundation
- Police Executive Research Forum

As long as Bill Clinton is President, the assault weapons ban

will be the law of the land. The President calls on the Republican Congressional leadership to reconsider their decision to vote on a repeal. The President has vowed to veto any bill that repeals the assault weapons ban.