

FLOOR ALERT VOTE "NO" ON AB 28!

Our organizations, which represent hundreds of thousands of outdoor enthusiasts across California, strongly urge you to VOTE "NO" on AB 28 – legislation which would impose an additional 11% excise tax on the sale of all firearms, firearm parts, and ammunition.

- ➤ AB 28 would <u>double</u> the excise tax law-abiding shooters and those who hunt already pay on all firearms and ammunition effectively raising the total tax rate on these items to nearly 30%.
- Lawful hunters and recreational shooters <u>already pay</u> an 11% excise tax on long guns, ammunition, archery, and other hunting equipment as well as a 10% excise tax on handguns pursuant to federal Pittman-Robertson Act (PR). Those dollars are allocated back to states to fund beneficial programs including wildlife habitat projects that benefit game and non-game species.
- Last year alone, California was allocated over \$30 million in federal PR dollars which will fund a large portion of our state's wildlife management, conservation, and research efforts. AB 28 will create a significant disincentive for hunters and other gun owners to buy firearm related products and therefore further contribute to PR funding.
- ➤ AB 28 would unjustifiably place the burden of funding efforts to address illegal gun violence solely on the backs of citizens who legally purchase and lawfully use firearms and ammunition.
- By substantially raising the cost of purchasing a firearm and ammunition, AB 28 would disproportionately impact the ability of economically disadvantaged individuals to legally purchase a firearm and ammunition to protect themselves and their loved ones, and their access to hunting and shooting sports at a time when the Administration and the Legislature are seeking to increase participation in outdoor recreation and access for all Californians.
- All Californians benefit from programs intended to reduce illegal gun violence, and the state should not place the costs of implementation of these programs solely on legal and responsible gun owners.
- ➤ AB 28 would unjustifiably place an additional tax on firearms and ammunition when California has just recently made a record \$209 million in funding available for programs intended to address illegal firearm violence.

AB 28 would do nothing to reduce criminal use of firearms but would inequitably impact California's disadvantaged communities, lawful hunting and firearm enthusiasts, and our wildlife and their habitats.