



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION  
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To: Members of the Committee on Judiciary

From: Andrew Jennison, NRA-ILA Connecticut State Liaison

Subject: SB 1094, An Act Banning Large Capacity Ammunition Magazines

Date: March 23, 2011

Position: **Oppose**

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The National Rifle Association's Institute for Legislative Action steadfastly opposes Senate Bill 1094. SB 1094 seeks to prohibit the possession of firearms magazines that accept more than ten rounds of ammunition. If passed and signed into law, any person in possession of any magazine greater than ten rounds, who has not already surrendered the magazine prior to enactment or ninety days after enactment, will be guilty of a class D felony.

The owners of large capacity magazines are not criminals or individuals intent on committing atrocious acts; they are sportsmen or firearm enthusiasts who use the extra weight provided by large capacity magazines to help balance the recoil when firing. They are target shooters who prefer having one magazine instead of having to purchase multiple magazines and consistently reload. They are responsible citizens whose right to own a large capacity magazine should not be jeopardized because of criminal actions by others.

Despite the recent media attention given to large capacity magazines, no correlation exists between the size or capacity of a detachable magazine and crime. Individuals who are currently prohibited by federal law from purchasing firearms are also prohibiting from purchasing firearm ammunition.<sup>i</sup>

After the tragic incident at Virginia Tech, the Virginia Tech Review Panel commissioned by Governor Timothy Kaine looked at whether or not the Assault Weapons Ban of 1994 that banned 15 round magazines would have made a difference on April 16, 2007. "The panel concluded that 10 round magazines which were legal would not have made a difference in the incident. Even pistols with rapid loaders could have been about as deadly in this situation".<sup>ii</sup>

SB 1094 lacks any clear policy rationale and is merely a solution in search of a problem. The NRA respectfully requests that the members of the Judiciary Committee oppose SB 1094.

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<sup>i</sup> 18 U.S.C § 922 (d)

<sup>ii</sup> Virginia Tech Review Panel Report. Chapter VI. Pg. 74.