

My suggestions as a firearm owner:

The "**right to bear arms**" should be balanced with our Constitutional rights for "**tranquility**" and "**general welfare**":

1. All magazine-fed firearms, whether assault rifles or semi-automatic pistols, should be banned nationally, except for active duty and retired law enforcement and similar. Whether 10 rounds or 30, magazines are easy and fast to load into firearms, and contraband high capacity magazines can be easily obtained on the black market, over the Internet, or made in a garage.
2. Since this will likely not pass Congress, in the very least magazine capacity should be reduced nationally to 10 or fewer bullets (same as the 1994 ban). I think it's important to exempt active duty and retired law enforcement from the restriction since they are trained to protect others, and should have an edge in magazine capacity should they have to protect the lives of others.
3. All rifles should be registered just as pistols are, with permits issued only after background checks and interviews.
4. All rifle or pistol "magazines" should be registered just as pistols are, and limited in number purchased. This will help to prevent mass accumulation of magazines.
5. Ammo should not require background checks but should require a pistol or rifle permit to serve the same end without unnecessary restrictions.

Thank you,  
Don Plunkett, Ph.D.