

There are so many guns out there now that even taking necessary measures to reduce the flow of assault rifles and large clips will not obviate the new demands for more police or other armed guards in our schools to counter the gun threat. Here in Redding this has already happened. The question is how should this be paid for?

The state needs to establish an excise tax, or increased sales tax, on the sale of all firearms and ammunition sufficient to fund the huge costs to cities and the state to deal with the danger imposed by all of the guns that are out there. If you want to get fancy, consider a low tax on a small gauge single shot or double barrel shotgun with progressively higher tax on semi-automatics and guns that are more lethal; do the same for ammunition, a lower tax for less lethal ammunition and more for high power ammunition.

Finally, if you wish to really control guns require that every gun and gun owner be licensed.

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