

California State Senate

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September 11, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Recommended Veto of AB 1669 (Bonta)

Dear Governor Newsom:

I respectfully write to request your veto of Assembly Bill 1669, which increases the existing \$14 Dealers' Record of Sale (DROS) fee to \$1 and instead imposes a new "fee" of \$31.19 on purchases of firearms to pay for the Department of Justice's expenditures relating to firearm enforcement.

This is nothing more than a tax increase disguised as a new "fee." The "firearms-related regulatory and enforcement activities related to the sale, purchase, manufacturing, lawful or unlawful possession, loan, or transfer of firearms " confer no direct benefits on firearms purchasers. As a result, this is clearly not a fee for service and should be paid for with General Fund dollars.

It is also curious that after several years of record high firearm sales and historic surpluses, the DROS fund is now facing fiscal insolvency. Rather than creating a new fee to fund enforcement, the state should be examining how the Department of Justice expended, or more likely mismanaged, the existing funds.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon Grove".

Shannon Grove
Senate Republican Leader