



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CALIFORNIA

August 6, 2013

The Honorable Tom Ammiano, Chair  
Committee on Public Safety  
California State Assembly  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-001

**Re: SB 683 (Block)—SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Ammiano:

The League of Women Voters of California is pleased to support SB 683 (Block), which would require all firearm purchasers to hold a valid Firearm Safety Certificate.

The League believes that the proliferation of handguns and semiautomatic assault weapons in the United States is a major health and safety threat to citizens. We support strong measures to limit the accessibility and regulate the ownership of handguns and assault weapons. We also support licensing procedures for gun ownership including a waiting period for background checks, personal identity verification, and license renewal, the fee for which should be adequate to bear the cost of verification.

SB 683 would, beginning on January 1, 2015, expand the current safety certificate requirement to apply to purchases of all firearms, rather than just handguns.

By requiring purchasers of all firearms, not just handgun purchasers, to pass an objective written test and demonstrate knowledge of safe firearm handling, SB 683 addresses the League's concerns regarding the public health and safety threat posed by gun violence. Accordingly, we urge your committee's support for SB 683.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer A. Waggoner".

Jennifer A. Waggoner  
President

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cc: Senator Marty Block