

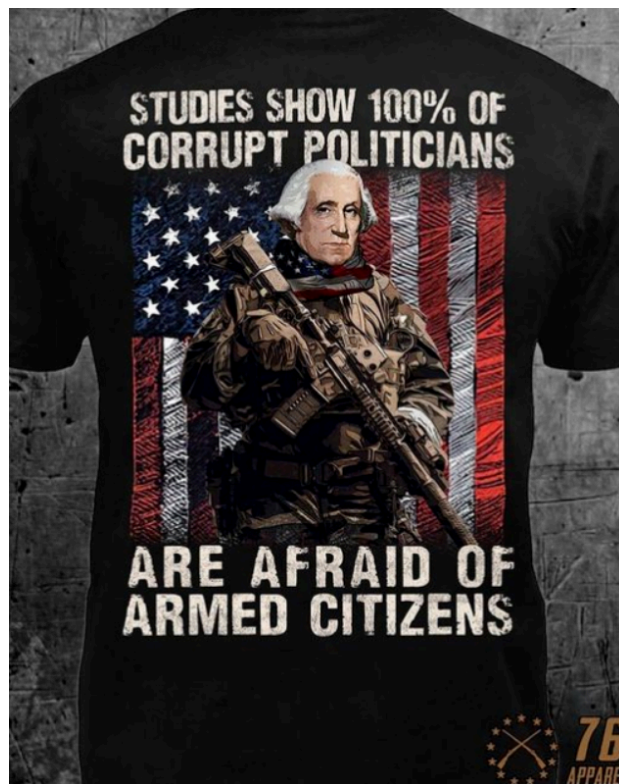


POTSHOTS

An Aggregator of Firearms-Related News and Information

potshotsnews@gmail.com

Number 129 – January 31, 2025



Trump Skips Guns in Flurry of Day One Executive Orders



Updated Detailed Information on Mass Public Shootings from 1998 to 2024

"Your failures are your accomplishments because it makes you prepared for whatever it is that you are going to do next."

Lee Daniel

C COURTHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

Gun Rights Group Asks 10th Circuit to Reload Challenge to Colorado's Ghost Gun Ban

TASK & PURPOSE

10 Odd Weapons From US Military History

GATDAILY
GUNS - AMMO - TACTICAL

The Tall Tales of Wood Bullets



Felony Conviction Rates by Race

Only 19% of American Voters Think that Passing more Gun Control Will Reduce Crime, Only 40% think that Either Passing More Gun Control or More Strictly Enforcing Gun Control would Reduce Crime. Americans want Criminals Arrested and Kept in Jail.



Outsider's Insights: Diving Into 3 Misconceptions About Firearms



Prepping with Children – Talking to Kids About Preparedness



Anti-Gun Hysteria as Biden’s Gun Control Office Shuts Down



Jeff-alytics

Vehicle-Based Crime Plunged in 2024: Preliminary City Data Points to an Encouraging Trend



Best Guns of SHOT Show 2025



SHOT Show Celebrates Industry Strength and Momentum

Several Pro-Industry Governors Display Second Amendment Bona Fides at SHOT Show® Forum

At SHOT University, a panel of experts in suicide prevention discussed “New Efforts in Industry’s Fight to Reduce Suicide.” The group included representatives from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, which announced a suicide prevention **module for firearm instructors** to plug into their courses; **The Armory Project** and The American Legion’s **Be The One** program. NSSF also discussed its suicide prevention toolkit and a recent Dept. of Veterans Affairs-delivered **webinar**, both for firearm retailers and shooting ranges.

NSSF
The Firearm Industry
Trade Association

Sign up to receive a reminder to
participate in Gun Storage Check
Week—June 1-7 and Sept. 1-7, 2025

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The Weird M1 Carbines

BEARING ARMS

Let's Talk About That Whole 'Well
Regulated Militia...' Bit

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2025

The Firearms Coalition of Colorado 01-29-2025 Legislative Alert- Semi-auto Ban Passes Senate Committee- Other Bills

(Please mark your calendar. Only urgent bills shown. Other bills in play.)

SB25-003, Semiautomatic Firearms and "Rapid Fire Devices" Ban, Sens. Sullivan and J. Gonzales, Reps. Boesenecker and Froelich. This measure bans the manufacture, distribution, transfer, sale, and purchase of any long gun and any "gas operated" handgun with a magazine well. It also bans possession of any "device, part, kit, tool, accessory, or combination of parts" that increase the rate of fire of a semiautomatic firearm. Assigned to Senate State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee, where Sen. Sullivan is Vice-Chair. Bill passed first committee hearing on a Party-Line Vote Tuesday, 01-28-2025. Opponents outnumbered proponents over two to one in public testimony. About 120 citizens testified against the bill. Testimony was ended by the committee chair just after 11 pm. We vehemently oppose this bill. It is dramatically unconstitutional, will destroy commerce in firearms in the state, and is a "good step" toward a ban on possession of semi-auto firearms.

SB25-034, Voluntary Do Not Sell Firearms Waiver, Sen. Kipp, Rep. Boesenecker. This bill is a solution in search of a problem. It allows a gun owner to "Red Flag" him or herself, becoming ineligible to legally purchase (or possess) a firearm, presumably because the individual is afraid of harming self or others. Provides a lever for aggressive law enforcement personnel to push for "voluntary" disarmament. Also, may open the door for permanent prohibited person status on mental health grounds. Bill is up on adjournment in Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee on Thursday, 02-06-2025 in Senate Committee Room 352 on the Third Floor of the Capitol. We oppose this measure.

SB25-059, Supports for State Response to Mass Shootings, Sen. Sullivan, Rep. Woodrow. Introduced on 01-22-2025. This proposal is an attempt to backfill the money that will be lost by victims' advocate groups when SB25-003 destroys the gun industry in Colorado and wipes out the revenue stream from the 6.5% "sin tax" levied last year on buyers of guns and ammunition. The bill requires the CO Division of

Criminal Justice to “apply for and expend federal or other available grant money to improve the state’s response to victims of mass shootings, including grant money to support services for victims...” You can’t make this stuff up. If the grant money is available, why the sin tax? Assigned, of course, to Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs. Not yet scheduled. We would support the bill, if Liberal/Progressives would cancel the “sin tax.” Another reason to kill SB25-003.

HB25-1133, Requirements for Sale of Ammunition, Reps. Duran and Gilchrist, Sen. Mullica. This bill, introduced on 01-28-2025 requires that a “vendor” must control access to ammunition in a face to face retail transaction and no ammunition may be sold to a person under 21. The bill adds requirements for shipping ammunition and mandates that a person over the age of 21 sign for receipt of the shipment. This bill could cause problems for gun show vendors, because ammunition is typically displayed on the table in front of the vendor. Bill is assigned to the House Business Affairs and Labor Committee. A hearing has not been scheduled. We oppose this proposal. The measure seems like the first volley in a general attack on ammunition sales.

Please contact your State Senator and Representative. If you come down to the Capitol, no guns, or sharp objects of any kind. No signs inside the building. No clothing with political slogans. No food, hats, or beverages, other than bottled water, in the hearing room. No camo or hunter orange. Sport coat and tie OK. You will have to go through a metal detector and may be asked to remove your belt and pass the buckle through the machine. Come early and plan to stay late. Come into the Capitol through the south ground floor entrance. Double check the schedule. Hearing details can change. During the hearing, do not impugn (question) the motives of the bill sponsors. Plan to leave the Capitol in groups. You will be unarmed in a bad neighborhood.

You can sign up in advance to testify at any upcoming hearing at the following link.
<https://www2.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2023A/commsumm.nsf/signIn.xsp>

This link will work for in-person testimony, remote testimony, or for the submission of written testimony. Your remote testimony can be either video, or audio only. After you sign up, you should receive an e-mail with additional instructions. A link and a phone number are available, if you have problems accessing the above testimony link. You can sign up on the link once the bill is placed on the committee schedule. It is probably a good idea to sign up early.

To watch and/or listen to a hearing at your home, office, or shop, you can access the audio link here, when the hearing begins: [Watch & Listen | Colorado General Assembly](#)

Follow the Colorado Legislative Session at: <https://leg.colorado.gov/> Bookmark the Site. To reach your Senator, call: 303-866-2316. To reach your Representative, call: 303-866-2904. You can locate your elected officials on the State Web Site at: <https://leg.colorado.gov/find-my-legislator>.

Information on Bills can be found here: [Bills, Resolutions, & Memorials | Colorado General Assembly](#)

Committee Schedules are here: [Committees | Colorado General Assembly](#)

Be courteous and concise in your comments to all elected officials. Where appropriate, state facts and the personal impact of legislation on you and your family. It is important to let elected officials know your opinion, even if they oppose your views. They need to know there is significant, principled opposition to their intended course of action, or they will assume that no one cares and will pursue even more outrageous proposals.

While public testimony at hearings is important, elections are the most important factors in determining if we are to keep our birthright of freedom recognized by the Second Amendment. Elections determine who runs the legislative process at the state and federal levels, and who controls the boards, councils and commissions for local districts, cities, and counties. Please do as much as you can to assist in the effort to elect pro- Second Amendment candidates in 2025 and 2026.

Follow us at: <https://groups.io/g/gunissues>. (May need to copy and paste.) (You must sign on to join this group.)

The Firearms Coalition of Colorado is an NRA Grassroots Affiliate. Our all-volunteer organization depends on memberships and the generosity of Second Amendment Supporters. Please join or contribute to The Firearms Coalition of Colorado. Individual memberships are still \$25 per year. Send check or money order to: **The Firearms Coalition of Colorado, PO Box 1454, Englewood, CO 80150-1454**



Governor Polis has revealed his position on the semi-automatic firearm ban

It is impressively noncommittal. We expect nothing less from a politician with national ambitions.

When asked about the proposed ban, Governor Polis said:

“I want to make sure it doesn’t interfere with legal, law-abiding gun owners in our state for hunting, for home defense or sport. We’ll certainly bring those values to the table as the discussions continue. I’m not entirely sure why the legislature wants to play around with different gun models. Certainly, always a red line for me has been don’t affect things that people already have. This proposal obviously clears that.” - Governor Polis

Does he want the bill amended? Will he sign it? Will he let it become law without his signature? Will he veto it? Will he push on Senate and House leaders to kill this bill, so he does not have to deal with it?

His response is a stark change from his opposition of past gun bans. We need to double down on rallying our state against this bill.

CSSA will continue to monitor Polis’ position, but our pressure is already having an impact as we have focused on how this bill will ban guns used in hunting, home defense, and sport shooting, the same issues he brought up in his quote. We have also pointed out that banning guns based on their type of recoil system does not make a lot of sense - yet another issue he touched on. Governor Polis appears to be pondering the exact arguments that the CSSA has been highlighting.

We need to keep up the pressure and continue to sound the alarm bells on this bill.

Thanks to our members and donors, CSSA has already contacted over 100,000 pro-gun Coloradans to help push back against this bill.

This is only the beginning; we need to continue to build momentum against these anti-gun forces. We have said from the beginning that the governor’s desk is one of this bill’s battlefields. We need your help to contact more pro-gun Coloradans so that everyone is mobilized to take a stand. With your support, this will mark the third year in a row that we have prevented the passage of a gun ban.

Donation Fund Glossary

General Fund: Goes wherever CSSA needs it most

Legal Fund: Funds lawsuits to overturn 2A infringements

Constituent Outreach Fund: Funds pro-gun messaging and voter turnout campaigns

Donate to our Constituent Outreach Fund! Donate to our Legal Fund!

Donate to our General Fund! Become a Member of CSSA!

Response in Opposition to Sendate Bill 2025-003

DATE: January 25, 2025

Understanding Firearms Technology and Related Issues

Removable Magazines

Firearms that use removable magazines allow the user to quickly load and unload ammunition. These firearms are characterized by greater efficiency in combat or self-defense scenarios because the shooter can carry multiple magazines and quickly reload the firearm. The concept of banning them comes from your concerns about the ability to rapidly fire large quantities of ammunition in a short time, especially in cases of mass shootings.

However, it's important to note that most firearms using removable magazines are used for legitimate hunting, sport shooting, and self-defense purposes. The presence of a removable magazine is not inherently tied to criminal misuse; the functionality of such a firearm depends on its design and how it is used. You have already made the situation more hazardous for anyone with a firearm by limiting the magazine's capacity to 15 rounds, with absolutely no scientific evidence of where that "magic" number comes from.

It's also critically important to remember that criminals DO NOT have any reservations about using guns to commit crimes, whether they can legally acquire them or not. Thefts, burglaries, and black market purchases are only a few ways to acquire firearms outside of the law and you, as legislators, have done little or nothing to deal with any of those shortcomings. All of your rules and regulations have been aimed specifically at lawful, legal, and responsible gun owners in Colorado, rather than the criminals we know are living in Colorado.

Assault Weapons

The term "assault weapon" is often used in a legislative context, as you are doing again for the third year in a row in Colorado, but lacks a universally-accepted definition. In some jurisdictions, it refers to firearms that possess military-style features like pistol grips, adjustable stocks, flash suppressors, and other characteristics typically found on military rifles. It is crucial to note the design features that define an "assault weapon" DO NOT affect the firearm's function, which may still be semi-automatic (one shot per trigger pull, NOT multiple shots from a single trigger pull). The classification of a weapon as an "assault weapon" is more about its appearance than its functionality, yet you continue to focus on cosmetic features that do not address the real issues of gun violence or crime of various kinds.

Gas-Fed Semi-Automatic Firearms

Gas-operated semi-automatics use the gases produced firing a round to cycle the action and load the next round. While this makes the firearm operate more efficiently, it does not make it inherently dangerous or more deadly than other semi-automatic systems, which may use recoil or blowback mechanisms, instead. Gas-fed systems are commonly found in many types of firearms, including hunting rifles and sporting shotguns, in addition to military-style rifles. Most guns in those categories do not use removable magazines; are they in danger of being outlawed, a well?

The Bruen Decision: Key Implications

In case you're not aware, or simply don't care, the underlying issues in this Senate Bill have already been decided by the U.S. Supreme Court just two years ago. The *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* decision significantly impacted legal gun rights in the United States (of which Colorado is still a part!). The Court's decision again asserted the Second Amendment's protection of an individual's right to keep and bear arms under the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (the "law of our land" legislators like to speak about so often), and sets forth important protections that should be considered in evaluating gun control measures.

Historical Tradition Test

In *Bruen*, the Court rejected the "means-end" balancing test -- public safety vs. individual rights -- lower courts had been using in Second Amendment cases. Instead, the Court introduced a "historical tradition" test. The

Court held the government COULD NOT ban weapons or impose regulations unless they were consistent with the historical understanding of the Second Amendment. This means any new regulations and/or prohibitions on firearms should be based on the nation's history and tradition of regulating arms.

If a particular type of firearm, such as gas-fed semi-autos or those with removable magazines, has historically been available to law-abiding citizens, banning them without historical precedent is unconstitutional.

Application to "Assault Weapons"

While the Supreme Court did not directly address the issue of "assault weapons," the Bruen decision emphasized that all regulations restricting firearms should be based on historical practice. In the U.S., firearms like the AR-15-style rifle, often classified as an assault weapon, have been available to civilians for decades. These firearms have undoubtedly become part of the tradition of civilian gun ownership, AKA the "Modern Sporting Rifle" or MSR. While you can argue modern semi-automatics are more lethal, you must admit they still function in much the same way as older semi-autos, and there is no clear historical tradition of banning weapons based on cosmetic features.

A ban on "assault weapons" using this historical approach may be found (WILL be found?) to be unconstitutional under Bruen. Banning firearms based on their appearance, rather than their functionality or a demonstrated threat to public safety, would likely face significant legal challenges.

Self-Defense and Public Safety

Also a key principle in Bruen is the recognition of the right to self-defense. The Supreme Court stressed the right to bear arms is not solely for hunting, but also includes the ability for a person to protect themselves, their family, and their property. Firearms with removable magazines, gas-fed semi-automatics, and military-style features play a critical role in personal defense in situations where a person may need to defend themselves against multiple aggressors or require rapid follow-up shots. These firearms provide for my necessary right to self-defense, and should not be curtailed by arbitrary bans by legislators who have an anti-gun bias that has no basis in fact.

The loss of a loved one to gun violence is something no one should ever experience, but criminals who perpetrate such violence could just as easily use a knife, a club, a baseball bat, a rock, or some other inanimate object, just as they have in the United Kingdom, Europe, Australia, and other locations in the news lately. In fact, guns account for a smaller percentage of use in crime than all other possible weapons put together.

Arguments Against Firearm Bans

Constitutional Rights

The most fundamental argument against banning these types of firearms is the Second Amendment itself. The Amendment protects the individual's right to own firearms for self-defense, hunting, and other lawful purposes. While the government can regulate firearms, it cannot outright ban certain classes of firearms unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Under Bruen, any attempt to restrict access to firearms must be grounded in historical tradition; bans on certain modern firearms (like semi-automatics with detachable magazines) most likely will not meet.

Effectiveness of Bans

There is also an argument that banning "assault weapons" or similar firearms may not have a significant impact on crime or gun violence. Studies of previous "assault weapons" bans, such as the 1994 Federal Assault Weapons Ban, suggest the impact on crime rates is minimal, as the weapons in question were used in a small proportion of crimes even before the ban (especially rifles compared to handguns). Additionally, banning one class of firearms may drive people to other types of weapons that are just as capable of inflicting harm, as previously stated.

Focus on Criminal Misuse

It's vitally important for you to distinguish between the tools used in crimes and the individuals who misuse them. The overwhelming majority of gun owners use their firearms responsibly. Banning certain types of

firearms based on their features unfairly penalize law-abiding citizens while doing little to address the root causes of gun violence, such as mental health issues, criminal backgrounds, or illegal trafficking of firearms.

Alternative Approaches

Rather than focusing on bans, there are more effective ways of addressing concerns regarding gun violence, such as improvements to the reliability of NCIC and/or CBI background checks, earlier identification and enhancement of mental health services and/or treatments, promotion of responsible gun ownership, or increasing law enforcement efforts to address illegal trafficking from gun thefts and black market purchases. All these approaches would be less intrusive on the rights of responsible gun owners, while still working to reduce violent crime which, I hope, is the major impetus for looking at this issue in the first place, rather than just plain CONTROL.

Conclusion

In summary, ANY argument for banning firearms with removable magazines ("assault weapons") or gas-fed semi-automatics faces both legal and practical challenges in any legislation you decide on. From a legal standpoint, the Bruen decision is based on the historical tradition of gun rights and the constitutional protection of individual firearm ownership allowed by the Second Amendment. Any restrictions on firearms needs to be rooted in historical precedent, and are bans on certain modern firearms cannot meet. Banning these firearms might not address the root causes of gun violence and could unfairly impact responsible gun owners.

In last year's Legislative Session, legislators passed a requirement for gun owners to secure their weapons out-of-sight in locked containers attached to a vehicle, but dropped the proposed legislation that made theft of a firearm from a vehicle a crime, alighty back-asswards, wouldn't you say?

Given the Supreme Court's decisions and the ongoing national debate over gun control, it's clear that any proposed ban on these firearms would face strong legal challenges and would need to be justified on more than just their appearance or perceived lethality. I doubt that you or your fellow legislators can justify firearms on those qualities alone, without some alternatives to solve the overall problems of criminality that accompany them as they exist today.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to respond to this proposed legislation. I hope you take what I have written here into your final decision. I assure you I am not alone on this issue.

Respectfully,

Michael Thomas
Member, Board of Directors, Cherry Creek Gun Club, Inc., Denver, CO
NRA-Certified Range Safety Officer - RSO / Home Firearms Safety - HFS Instructor
Concealed Handgun Permit Holder - Colorado
Veteran, U.S. Army/Army Reserves

BEARING ARMS

Semi-Auto Ban NOT the Only Anti-gun Move in Colorado Statehouse: Other Bills are on the Agenda, Too

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SHOOTING 101: Shotgun Loading Basics for Defense or Sport

PDW
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Shooting 101: A Discussion in the Concealed Carry Holster Types

GunDigest
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Gun Cleaning: How Much Is Too Much?

Understanding Rifle Zero And Scope Mounts

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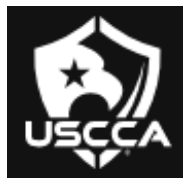
FEB 8 February 8, 2025 @ 9:00 am - February 9, 2025 @ 4:00 pm
LOVELAND GUN SHOW – FEB 8 – 9 2025

FEB 15 February 15, 2025 @ 9:00 am - February 16, 2025 @ 4:00 pm
CASTLE ROCK GUN SHOW – FEB 15-16 2025

MAR 29 March 29, 2025 @ 9:00 am - March 30, 2025 @ 4:00 pm
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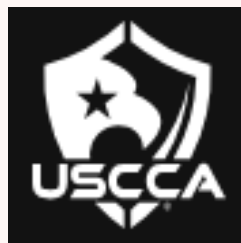


Weekend Knowledge Dump

Check [this link](#) for the ongoing collection of
dumps, featuring information on almost any
topic you can think of related to guns and
shooting. Updated weekly.....



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**Firearm Instructor Insurance: Covers
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**A Comprehensive Guide
to Federal Firearms
Regulations**



**The Firearms Coalition of Colorado
PO Box 1454, Englewood, CO 80150-1454
<https://groups.io/g/gunissues>**



**Reference Guide to
Federal Firearms Laws**



**Colorado State Shooting Assn.
7661 McLaughlin RD #522
Falcon, CO 80831
<https://cssa.org>**

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