

I strongly support Senate Bill SB 554. Communities should be able to decide for themselves if they want weapons whose only purpose is to injure or kill in their public buildings, schools, and campuses. This does not infringe in any way on anyone's right to bear arms. No right is absolute (the example usually given is the prohibition on yelling "fire!" in a crowded theater). If it were me, I would make exceptions for a musket and a dueling pistol, which have to be reloaded between each shot and which were the only "arms" available to our founders when they included the 2nd amendment in the constitution. They were not meaning to allow individual ownership of cannons or other weapons of war, and certainly never imagined that their words would be twisted to allow for individual ownership of, and public carrying of, automatic or semi-automatic weapons, weapons that did not need to be reloaded after every shot, nuclear weapons, bombs, biological weapons, etc. My right to freedom from fear and intimidation trumps their right to carry such things in the kinds of public venues addressed in SB 554.