

I am a registered Democrat on the more liberal end of the spectrum. I'm also an NRA Certified Pistol Instructor and Chief Range Safety Officer. I support reasonable gun control laws such as the requirement to take a firearms safety course taught by members of law enforcement as a requirement of firearm ownership, universal background checks, requirement to own a firearms safe, and safe storage and control. However, I oppose any banning military style semi-automatic rifles (incorrectly labeled "assault rifles") and limits on magazine capacity. I am also opposed to Measure 110.

I have three reasons for my opposition.

- 1) We have seen the threat to public officials and to the general public from reactionaries on the right of the political spectrum.
- 2) Lack of definitive evidence or inconclusive evidence that concealed carry holders pose a risk to the general public (<https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/analysis/concealed-carry/violent-crime.html>). Actions should be based on evidence, not on beliefs and bias.
- 3) In order to prevent conspiracies and potential violence that such gun control measures cause, we need to change the focus from gun control to gun safety.

I would much rather see a measure that splits legal concealed carry into two permits, the first, the current one where holders are restricted from concealed carry in the places/areas covered by Measure 110, and a second, higher level permit that would grant permission to carry concealed in the areas covered by Measure 110. Such a permit should require the applicant to pass a more extensive background check and to pass a defensive handgun class, including simulated live fire exercises, that cover the risk of affirmative defense and avoidance of such risk. Such a class should be taught by a member of law enforcement and be equivalent to such classes taught in law enforcement academies. Cost of such a permit and the defensive firearm class should be considerably more than the current concealed carry permit. Such holders should also be required to serve notification prior to entering the areas covered by Measure 110.

Thank you.

This would help move the discussion from gun control to gun safety.