Date

Senator/Representative Name

Address

Dear Senator/Representative Name:

Once again the NRA has brought its new wish list to Congress. Heading up this year’s list is a proposal to legalize the sale and ownership of silencers and a proposal for a national reciprocal concealed carry law. Neither of these proposals makes any sense to the vast majority of Americans – Republicans, Democrats, male, female, young, old, white, black, Latino, Asian, police, public safety officials, even gun owners. According to Public Policy Polling:

* 73 percent of gun owners support current law regarding the sale of silencers.
* 88 percent of gun owners believe the current requirement to have a permit to carry a concealed handgun in a public place should be continued.

I believe Congress should be considering ways to lessen the gun violence in the US not ways to loosen our already shamefully lax gun laws. How about expanding the use of background checks? Again Public Policy Polling found:

* 80 percent of gun owners support requiring a background check on all gun sales, including those sold online or at gun shows, while just 16 percent oppose them.
* 73 percent of gun owners are more likely to support a candidate who supports background checks for all gun purchases.

You will likely have an opportunity to cast a vote on each of these proposals. Before you decide how to vote I ask you to consider who, exactly, is asking you to vote yes? Have you heard a huge outcry from your constituents, your neighbors, demanding that you vote yes? Or have you only heard from the NRA? Have you heard Americans clamoring for silencers and the loss of local determination of concealed carry laws? Or have you only heard the incessant bleating of the NRA? You should keep in mind another finding by Public Policy Polling that 67 percent of the gun owners feel that the NRA used to be an organization dedicated to gun safety, but it’s been overtaken by lobbyists and the interests of gun manufacturers and lost its original purpose and mission. Less than 50 percent of gun owners feel that the organization represents their interests.

 You will ultimately have to decide who you represent – us, your constituents and neighbors, or the NRA.

Sincerely,

Your name and address