
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8005

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Senators Benton, Roach, Stevens, Mulliken and Oke

Read first time 01/24/2005. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Citizens have a right, protected by the Second Amendment
9 to the United States Constitution, to keep and bear arms; and

10 WHEREAS, Lawsuits have been commenced against manufacturers,
11 distributors, dealers, and importers of firearms that operate as
12 designed and intended, which seek money damages and other relief for
13 the harm caused by the misuses of firearms by third parties, including
14 criminals; and

15 WHEREAS, The manufacture, importation, possession, sale, and use of
16 firearms and ammunition in the United States are heavily regulated by
17 Federal, State, and local laws including the Gun Control Act of 1968,
18 the National Firearms Act, and the Arms Export Control Act; and

19 WHEREAS, Businesses in the United States that are engaged in
20 interstate and foreign commerce through the lawful design, manufacture,

1 marketing, distribution, importation, or sale to the public of firearms
2 or ammunition that has been shipped or transported in interstate or
3 foreign commerce are not, and should not, be liable for the harm caused
4 by those who criminally or unlawfully misuse firearm products or
5 ammunition products that function as designed and intended; and

6 WHEREAS, Thirty-three states have passed legislation protecting
7 firearms and ammunition manufacturers, and legislation in Congress
8 supporting this measure has broad bipartisan support;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that our
10 elected Representatives and Senators in the United States Congress end
11 the abuse of tort laws against the firearm industry.

12 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
13 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
14 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
15 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
16 Washington.

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