



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1054

HAROLD P. NAUGHTON, JR.
12TH WORCESTER DISTRICT
200 HIGH STREET
CLINTON, MA 01510
TEL: (978) 365-1955

Chairman
Joint Committee on
Public Safety and Homeland Security

ROOM 167, STATE HOUSE
TEL (617) 722-2230
FAX (617) 722-2846
Harold.Naughton@MAhouse.gov

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Attorney General Maura Healey
Office of Massachusetts Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108-1518

Dear Attorney General Healey,

I am writing to respectfully express my concerns about your recent statements and efforts issuing an Enforcement Notice relative to the sale and possession of firearms that are deemed to be "copies" or "duplicates" of guns banned under the Commonwealth's assault weapons law implemented 18 years ago. While I understand your intentions in this matter, I feel this is a misuse and overstepping of authority.

In the view of many of my legislative colleagues and I, the assault weapons ban has been implemented effectively by the Attorney General's Office as well as law enforcement. However, this recent directive, concerning so called "copies and duplicates" of banned weapons in the current law is not only confusing, but the vagueness of the guidance has raised significant questions over which firearms are now banned or could be banned in the future. I also am fearful this will have an immediate economic impact on small retailers in the Commonwealth.

Through my work as Chairman of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, I want to be clear that I am not opposed to revisiting the state's gun laws, as we did in 2014, to ensure that they follow our rights under the Second Amendment, as well as improving the safety of the public throughout our state. This being said, I strongly believe that any such review of our gun control laws should be a legislative matter to be considered by both the House and Senate along with public input.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, I would be more than happy to do so.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold Naughton".

HAROLD P. NAUGHTON, JR.
State Representative, 12th Worcester District
House Chairman, Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security