



# OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DAN DOW  
District Attorney

ERIC J. DOBROTH  
Assistant District Attorney

JERRET C. GRAN  
Chief Deputy District Attorney

SHERYL M. WOLCOTT  
Chief Deputy District Attorney

WILLIAM M. HANLEY  
Chief, Bureau of Investigation

August 28, 2018

The Honorable Toni Atkins  
Senate Pro Tem  
State Capitol, Room 205  
Sacramento, CA 95814

*Sent via facsimile to: (916) 651-4939*

The Honorable Anthony Rendon  
Speaker of the Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 209  
Sacramento, CA 95814

*Sent via facsimile to: (916) 651-4939*

Dear Senator Atkins and Speaker Rendon:

I write about an urgent matter that I wrote to you about on August 17, 2018 because it is of utmost importance to the safety of all Californians across our great state. I urge you both to work together immediately to close the wide open loophole that now grants to mentally ill criminal offenders the ability to purchase a firearm legally, after being identified as a mentally ill and dangerous individual. This dangerous loophole was created by Assembly Bill 1810 and it became law in California on July 1, 2018. It is an unintended consequence of passing such sweeping legislation through a budget trailer bill procedure without adequate vetting.

You have the power to close this loophole quickly and easily, if you choose to do so. This should receive wide bi-partisan support, as I am sure that no political leader wants their inaction to be responsible for a future mass shooting that was avoidable by closing this loophole when you have the opportunity and were made aware of it.

Please either amend Senate Bill 215 (Beall) to add the firearm prohibition language today proposed by Governor Brown's administration; or allow Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes' spot bill be amended today. It is vital that you take action so that no mentally ill offender will be legally allowed to purchase a firearm. This week, in Fresno County, an 18-year old troubled young man, Kyle Dwelle, was granted AB 1810 diversion and his crime was planning a mass-shooting at his high school graduation. It is unconscionable to leave this loophole open one day longer. It is irresponsible to wait until the next legislative session to correct this.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I urge you to take every possible action to close this loophole before the end of this session. This is a vital step towards keeping California safe.

Very truly yours,

DAN DOW  
District Attorney  
County of San Luis Obispo, State of California