

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



MICHAEL S. DUKAKIS
GOVERNOR

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

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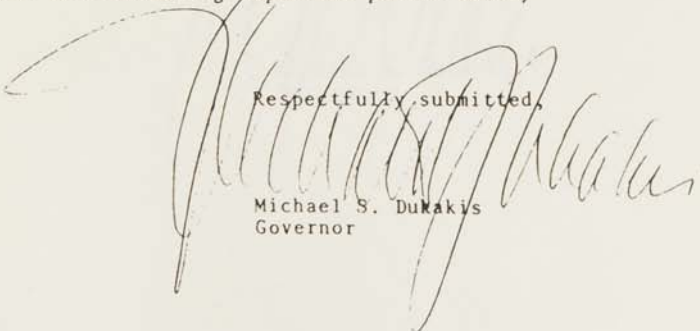
To the Honorable House of Representatives

Pursuant to Part 2, Chapter 1, Section 1, Article II of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I am vetoing and returning unsigned House Bill No. 459, entitled "An Act Relative to Exemption for Nonresident Purchasers of Certain Firearms and Ammunition".

Under current law, certain out of state residents can obtain a rifle, shotgun, or ammunition from a licensed gun dealer. House Bill No. 459, would eliminate the requirement that gun dealers notify the chief of police where the out of state resident resides that said resident made a purchase, expand the category of persons eligible to purchase, and would permit the purchaser to lawfully keep the guns in the Commonwealth beyond the two week period currently allowed.

This bill would weaken the gun laws of this Commonwealth given the present proliferation of guns and level of violence. This is the wrong direction. We need strict gun laws which, at the same time, protect the right of legitimate hunters. This bill goes too far in eliminating important public safety protections.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael S. Dukakis
Governor

