

OPPOSITION TO HB 1224

Attachment I

My name is Doug Hendrickson and I am a Colorado native. In 1967 I was drafted and spent a year in combat in Vietnam. Several of us from Weld County were sent to Fort Campbell, Kentucky in July 1967 for basic training. To prepare us for combat the drill sergeants inflicted all manner of physical and mental stress designed to desensitize us and induce an "immediate savage response." The purpose of this training was to increase our odds of surviving in combat. Yet *with that training and the horrors of war that followed, none of us came home with thoughts of mass killings!*

My life-long hobby has been collecting guns, especially historic military rifles and related equipment. I have a notable collection of the M1 Carbine rifle, as well as several 30-round magazines that were used in the Korean War.

Guns and high capacity magazines do not speak violence to me. To the contrary, sharing memories and experiences with other veterans has had a singularly stabilizing effect on me and my comrades. Over the years, the rich camaraderie experienced through sharing these memory-filled artifacts with fellow veterans at gun shows and other events has been a source of great joy.

If you pass this high capacity magazine ban I will be unable to display my collection publicly. The very hobby that has brought healing, joy and priceless friendships to me over the decades will have been hijacked by bill HR #1224.

Instead of intruding on our historic gun ownership rights, I would encourage you to turn your legislative attention to violent video games that warp the judgment of impressionable young men like the Aurora theater and Sandy Hook school shooters. Why punish the overwhelming majority of peaceful and peace-loving citizens for the crimes of the few whose actions are caused not by weapons but by obvious mental problems.

Doug Hendrickson 3/4/2013