

Dear Berkley Residents,

We hope this message finds you well. As part of our ongoing commitment to advocate for the interests and concerns of our community, we wish to express our strong opposition to Bill H.4139, which is currently under consideration.

### **Overview of Bill H.4139:**

Bill H.4139, introduced on October 23, 2023, encompasses several critical changes in firearm regulations in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. While this summary provides a basic breakdown, it does not cover every detail contained in the bill's language but aims to serve as an abbreviated summary of key points.

**Assault Style Firearms (Sections 20, 51):** The bill introduces a new definition that affects semi-automatic long guns, potentially impacting firearms that were previously considered protected items under the Second Amendment.

**Common Long Gun (Section 21, 45):** This definition excludes explicitly semi-automatic firearms for individuals under 21, affecting their ability to possess such firearms for hunting and use at unlicensed clubs.

**Curio and Relic (Section 23, 48):** Changes in licensing for bona fide collectors may impact private transfers.

**Defensive Sprays (Section 34, 45):** A separate pepper permit for 15 – 18-year-old individuals is created with no fee for the permit.

**Firearm Control Advisory Board (Section 49):** Changes in makeup and duties of the Gun Control Advisory Board, including new members and responsibilities.

**Gun Use Data (Section 41):** The bill mandates the gathering of extensive data on the legal and criminal use/possession of firearms and makes this data available to the public.

**Large Capacity Feeding Device (Section 27, 51):** New definitions affect the assembly of firearm components.

**Large Capacity Firearm (Section 21, 28, 47):** The bill introduces various restrictions related to the possession and transport of large-capacity firearms.

**Licensing Authority (Section 29):** Changes in handling license applications by municipalities and the State Police.

**Mandatory Registration (Section 39):** The bill mandates the serialization and registration of all firearms, with specific requirements and exemptions.

**Mandatory Firearm Safety Training (Section 47):** The state assumes responsibility for issuing certificates of training, impacting the training process for prospective firearm owners.

**Mandatory Licensing Authority Training (Section 47):** Mandatory training requirements for law enforcement personnel.

**Mandatory Firearm Retailer Training (Section 47):** Retailers must complete training programs, and specific requirements are outlined.

**Manufacturer Liability (Section 52):** The bill introduces potential manufacturer liability in certain cases.

**Nonresidents (Section 30, 45):** New regulations affect nonresident licenses and the possession of firearms by nonresidents.

**Private Transfers (Section 48):** The bill introduces restrictions on private transfers, including ammunition.

**Prohibited Areas (Section 92):** Restrictions on firearm possession in specific locations, including government-owned properties and educational institutions.

**Receiver Definition (Section 26, 32):** The bill changes the definition of "Receiver," impacting certain firearm components.

**Red Flag Laws:** The bill includes an expansion of existing Red Flag laws.

**Retailers (Section 46, 47):** Retailer licenses are subject to uniform standards, suitability requirements, and mandatory training.

**Secured Locked Container/Safe Storage (Section 34, 47):** The bill introduces requirements for firearm storage.

**Serial Numbers (Section 35, 40):** Mandates serialization and registration of all firearms and certain firearm components.

**Stun Guns (Section 26, 45):** Stun guns become subject to serialization and registration requirements.

**Triggers (Section 36, 86):** The bill introduces a ban on "Trigger modifiers."

We encourage you to join us in expressing your opposition to this bill. Your input and support are vital in advocating for the concerns and values that matter most to our community.

We will inform you of any developments related to Bill H.4139 and any community engagement or advocacy opportunities. Please stay tuned for updates on our town's website and social media channels.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support. Together, we can make a difference and ensure our community's interests are heard and respected.

Sincerely, Board of Selectmen