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July 26, 2016

BY HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Maura Healey
Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place, 18th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Attorney General Healey:

Enclosed is a letter from Secretary of Public Safety Daniel Bennett regarding concerns that have surfaced since your enforcement notice was announced last week. I support the assault weapons ban that has been in place for nearly twenty years here in Massachusetts and support our country's Second Amendment. I also believe that if gun makers are intentionally subverting the law then they should be held accountable.

However, ambiguities in your notice require clarification for responsible gun owners who simply want to follow the rules and for the thousands of gun owners who were told they were following the rules for eighteen years. As elected officials, we must do all we can to protect the people of Massachusetts. Keeping dangerous weapons out of the hands of those who wish to do others harm is a priority we share. At the same time, protecting from prosecution responsible gun owners who followed the rules in the past and ensuring there is clarity when it comes to enforcing gun control measures such as the assault weapons ban are essential to fair application of the law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles Baker".

Charles D. Baker
Governor