

GUN OWNERS OF AMERICA -- FIREARMS COALITION OF COLORADO
1996 COLORADO CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Most Americans understand that criminals will always find ways of obtaining weapons whether legally or illegally. Yet gun control forces are calling for limits on the number of firearms that a law-abiding citizen may purchase in a specified time period, usually only one per month. One-gun-a-month laws do not limit guns available to criminals, but they do require a complicated and expensive registration system to enforce.

Do you oppose "one-gun-a-month" laws that limit purchases of firearms by law-abiding citizens?

Yes No

2. Gun banners have attempted to discourage gun ownership by creating a morass of differing municipal ordinances. These rules often snare innocent sportsmen merely passing through a neighboring city.

Should state law prohibit Colorado localities from placing limitations on the rights of citizens to purchase or carry firearms?

Yes No

3. A Justice Department survey of perpetrators of crimes with handguns showed that 93% had obtained their most recent guns in ways other than buying them at gun stores where waiting periods could be imposed. In short, waiting periods do not stop criminals from obtaining guns but does increase the paperwork burden on police, keeping them from patrolling the streets.

Would you oppose legislation mandating a waiting period before the purchase of a firearm?

Yes No

4. Registration leads to confiscation: New York City "only registered" long guns (rifles and shotguns) in 1966. But then four years ago, the New York Daily News (9/5/92) reported the police began confiscating those very weapons. Of course, it's easy to confiscate firearms when the government has a list of the gun owners.

Would you oppose legislation that would require that firearms purchased by private citizens be registered with law enforcement and tracked by a centralized record system administered by government agencies?

Yes No

5. Gun control advocates falsely hype the idea that certain cosmetic features make some semi-automatic firearms "different" than others. Media hysteria has led to the misperception that semi-automatic firearms are so-called "assault weapons." All semi-automatic firearms function essentially the same.

Do you oppose legislation banning the manufacture, sale or possession of semi-automatic firearms?

Yes No

6. Common ammunition magazines available for firearms are in essence simple plastic or sheet metal boxes with springs in them. With literally millions of them already in circulation, aside from having no effect on crime, the task of banning and controlling them, even if somehow possible, would divert and waste enormous police resources needed to combat real crime and real criminals.

Do you oppose legislation banning the manufacture, sale or possession of large-capacity magazines?

Yes No

7. In many jurisdictions politically appointed police chiefs who serve at the pleasure of anti-gun politicians arbitrarily deny law-abiding citizens the ability to obtain a firearm for self-defense. Of course, criminals do not ask permission.

Do you oppose laws that would require that the police give permission prior to a person buying a firearm?

Yes No

8. Manufacturers of any product are held liable if the product is defective and causes injury. On the other hand manufacturers of kitchen knives are never held liable if a criminal uses one to stab a person. Yet some politicians want to hold gun manufacturers liable when a firearm is used to commit a crime. Their real objective is to simply ban guns.

Do you oppose laws which allow persons who are shot by a properly-working firearm to sue firearms manufacturers and/or firearms sellers (strict liability)?

Yes No

9. The power to tax is the power to destroy. When anti-gun politicians are unable to achieve their aims directly, they frequently resort to taxes to deviously achieve the same result.

Do you oppose laws which would impose any punitive taxes on the ownership, purchase or use of firearms or ammunition currently available to honest citizens?

Yes No

10. Gun control advocates push licensing systems with background checks, fingerprinting, high fees and "training" requirements as a first step in their goal of banning all guns. Once enacted, bureaucratic implementation of rulings, higher and higher fees and arbitrary training requirements make it more and more difficult for most law-abiding citizens to obtain a firearm.

Do you oppose government licensing to buy a gun?

Yes No

11. Vermont has one of the lowest violent crime rates in the nation. Their law simply says that every citizen has the right to carry a gun **except** to commit a crime. Thus, with no government bureaucracy, Vermont citizens can defend themselves. Criminals who use arms are more severely punished.

Would you support Vermont-style legislation which would eliminate all requirements to pay fees and register weapons and simply allow law-abiding citizens to carry firearms for any reason except for the commission of a crime?

Yes No

12. So-called "instant" background checks are in fact computerized central gun registration systems. Only a single computer keystroke is necessary to permanently register every gun sale and gun buyer. Furthermore, anti-gunners know an "instant" check system is the foundation for so-called "one-gun-a-month" laws (as in Virginia) and other gun control schemes.

Will you oppose computerized "instant" background check legislation since it centrally registers gun sales and gun owners?

Yes No

Feel free to attach additional comments to this survey.


Name: Mr. Ken Arnold District: State Senate 23 Party: R

Address: 10187 Julian Way, Westminster CO 80030

-Candidate Authorization

My signature affirms that the answers given above accurately represent my beliefs as a candidate for elective office.

Candidate's Signature


Mr. Ken Arnold

Date: 7.2-96

Gun Rights Leadership Pledge

Ken Arnold

1. Vermont has one of the lowest violent crime rates in the nation. Their law simply says that every citizen has the right to carry a gun **except** to commit a crime. Thus, with no government bureaucracy, Vermont citizens can defend themselves. Criminals who use arms are more severely punished.

Would you be willing to sponsor or cosponsor Vermont-style legislation which would eliminate all requirements to pay fees and register weapons and simply allow law-abiding citizens to carry firearms for any reason except for the commission of a crime?

- I would sponsor such legislation
 I would cosponsor such legislation

- 2.. Gun banners have attempted to discourage gun ownership by creating a morass of differing municipal ordinances. These rules often snare innocent sportsmen merely passing through a neighboring city.

Should state law prohibit Colorado localities from placing limitations on the rights of citizens to purchase or carry firearms?

- I would sponsor such legislation
 I would cosponsor such legislation

Signature: _____

Ken Arnold
Senate 23

Date: _____

7-2-96

Return to: GOA / FCC, 8001 Forbes Pl., Suite 102, Springfield, VA 22151-2205