

Dear:

On June 1, 2017, the latest deferral of the U.N. Firearms Protocol expires. The government has indicated that they intend to move forward to implement new Criminal Code marking regulations in support of Bill C-10A, which was passed in May 2003.

While I support the principle behind the proposed regulations, I do not believe that the amendments will accomplish what they are intended to do, will not enhance public safety, and will prove prohibitively expensive for the industry and legal firearms owners across Canada.

The proposed regulations would require importers/distributors/retailers in Canada to add identifying marks to each new firearm once it is in the country. If implemented, the proposed regulations will drive up the cost of new firearms, jeopardize the economic viability of small and medium sized businesses due to the exorbitant costs associated with the marking process, affect jobs and potentially impact on the value and integrity of the firearms in question.

The goal of the U.N. protocol is to ensure that every firearm can be tracked back to its point of origin. By simply amending Section 4(1) of the Firearm Marking Regulations to make it mandatory that all new firearms entering Canada must be marked with a serial number, (which manufacturers are already doing even though the law does not require it), Canada would be in compliance with the U.N. protocol.

As a constituent, I urge you to encourage your colleagues, the Honourable Ralph Goodale, Minister of Public Safety and the Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould, Minister of Justice, to replace the proposed amendments with this simpler version for the reasons outlined.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration in this important matter.

Yours sincerely,