The Honorable Nancy Pelosi

Speaker U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Steny H. Hoyer Majority Leader

U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy

Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable James E. Clyburn
Majority Whip
U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steve J. Scalise
Minority Whip
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Hoyer, Majority Whip Clyburn, Minority Leader McCarthy, and Minority Whip Scalise:

The House of Representatives is preparing to vote on two blatantly unconstitutional measures to which Gun Owners of America is vehemently opposed. The first is a so-called "assault weapons ban" and the second is a repeal of the *Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act*. Neither of these pieces of legislation will pass constitutional muster, and so we urge Congress to reject these measures. **Do not infringe on the constitutionally-protected rights of the people!** 

H.R. 1808, the Assault Weapons Ban of 2022, would undermine the American people's ability to choose the best self-defense firearms to suit their individual needs. AR-15s, Glocks, and the other so-called "assault weapons" banned by this bill are some of the most common firearms for home and self-defense. Rep. Nadler even recognized this fact when he stated that "the problem is that the[se weapons are] in common use." GOA urges the House of Representatives to heed the Supreme Court's rulings on the Second Amendment, which ruled that the Bill of Rights clearly protects firearms in common use. Further, there is no textual, historical, or traditional basis for the banning of these firearms, and thus this ban also fails the recently-affirmed text and history test for the Second Amendment.

The Assault Weapons Ban of 2022 will infringe on the rights of law-abiding citizens but will not stop criminals and other law breakers. Rep. Hank Johnson (GA) recognized this at committee when he refused to apply the ban to government agencies, stating that the government will need "assault weapons" to defend themselves from "misfits" who would not follow the law. Gun Owners of America implores Congress to recognize this same right of self-defense for the American people.

The House of Representatives is also preparing to vote on H.R. 2814, to repeal the *Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act*. This law is essential for protecting the industry which allows the American people to exercise their Second Amendment rights. Gun manufacturers can be sued for defective products, as any corporation can be. However, were it not for this law's specific protections, anti-gun activists and anti-gun courts would have already sued the gun industry into oblivion for the crimes of evil individuals. It is misguided for victims of violence to seek justice at the hands of the gun industry just as a victim of drunk driving could not sue the manufacturer of an automobile. Firearms are merely tools, which are, in fact, used more often to save lives than to take lives. Do not repeal this essential protection for those who lawfully conduct commerce in arms.

Gun Owners of America is opposed to the banning of any bearable arms, which are clearly protected from infringement by the Second Amendment, and supports protections for the firearm industry to prevent backdoor gun control. We encourage all constitutionally-minded legislators to disassociate themselves from this legislation at all costs and to vote against it should it rear its ugly head on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Yours in liberty,

Aidan Johnston

Director of Federal Affairs

Gun Owners of America