



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BUREAU OF FIREARMS



**New Firearm/Weapon Laws**  
***URGENT AND TIME SENSITIVE***  
***YOU MAY BE IMPACTED***

Assembly Bill 1135/Senate Bill 880 – Firearms: Assault Weapons

**Effective January 1, 2017, firearms that currently have a “Bullet Button” will be considered assault weapons. If you are in possession of an affected firearm, it must be registered by June 30, 2018.**

- The law will revise the definition of “assault weapon” to mean a semiautomatic centerfire rifle or semiautomatic pistol that does not have a fixed magazine, but does have at least one specified characteristic.
  - A rifle that has at least one of the following: pistol grip; thumbhole stock; folding/telescoping stock; grenade/flare launcher; flash suppressor; forward pistol grip.
  - A pistol that has at least one of the following: threaded barrel; second handgrip; shroud attached to the barrel to protect the bearer’s hand; ability to accept a magazine outside the pistol grip.
- The law will exempt from punishment a person who possessed an assault weapon prior to January 1, 2017, if specified requirements are met:
  - The person lawfully possessed an assault weapon that does not have a fixed magazine, including weapons with an ammunition feeding device that can be removed with a tool, from January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2016.
  - The person registers the assault weapon with the Department of Justice by June 30, 2018. The registration must be submitted electronically via the internet, through the California Firearms Application Reporting System (CFARS) at <https://cfars.doj.ca.gov>. The registration period will be August 2017 through June 30, 2018.
- A “fixed magazine” means an ammunition feeding device contained in, or permanently attached to, a firearm in such a manner that the device cannot be removed without disassembly of the firearm action.
- The department is drafting regulations that specify the acceptable methods of registering an assault weapon.

Assembly Bill 857 – Firearms: Ghost Guns (Identifying Information)

- Commencing July 1, 2018, the law will require a person who manufactures or assembles a firearm to first apply to the Department of Justice for a unique serial number.
- Any individual, as of July 1, 2018, who owns a firearm without a serial number must also apply for a unique serial number by January 1, 2019.
- The law will prohibit the sale or transfer of a firearm manufactured or assembled pursuant to these provisions.
- The department is drafting regulations that specify the acceptable procedures for obtaining a serial number for a firearm that does not possess one.

*For more information, visit our website <https://oag.ca.gov/firearms/>. To learn more about the firearm laws, refer to the CA Legislation Information page. <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billSearchClient.xhtml>*