

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 899 (Skinner and Blakespear) -  
2 Strengthening California's Red Flag Laws]

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3 **Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 899, introduced by**  
4 **Senators Nancy Skinner and Catherine Blakespear, to strengthen California's**  
5 **'Red Flag' Laws.**

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7 WHEREAS, In recognition of the urgent need to address gun violence in  
8 California, Senators Nancy Skinner and Catherine Blakespear have jointly introduced  
9 Senate Bill 899 (SB 899), which will fortify the effectiveness of California's "Red Flag"  
10 laws and other firearm-prohibiting restraining order statutes; and

11 WHEREAS, SB 899 aims to restrict individuals who are subject to protective  
12 orders from possessing firearms and ammunition, thereby reducing the risk of causing  
13 harm to themselves and others; and

14 WHEREAS, SB 899, specifies that courts must inform individuals subject to  
15 protective orders on how to relinquish firearms and ammunition in their possession,  
16 necessitating a court review to verify compliance and mandating that any violations be  
17 reported to the prosecuting attorney within two business days unless compliance is  
18 demonstrated through receipt submission; and

19 WHEREAS, SB 899, addresses the critical need for a streamlined process for  
20 serving protective orders by mandating that peace officers serve protective orders upon  
21 request without imposing fees on petitioners, thereby enhancing the efficiency and  
22 enforceability of these orders in cases of domestic violence, elder or dependent adult  
23 abuse, harassment, workplace violence, and violence in postsecondary educational  
24 institutions; and

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1           WHEREAS, SB 899, facilitates the issuance of search warrants for the seizure of  
2 firearms and ammunition from individuals subject to these orders, thereby closing a  
3 critical loophole in public safety protection and ensuring that no firearms or ammunition  
4 remain with those prohibited from owning them due to restraining orders; and

5           WHEREAS, By expanding the duties of law enforcement, SB 899 acknowledges  
6 the paramount importance of accessibility and enforcement of protective orders for the  
7 safety of all Californians; and

8           WHEREAS, SB 899, further acknowledges the complexity of domestic violence  
9 situations and the intricacies of family law by considering compliance with protective  
10 orders as a factor in child custody proceedings, as well as by operating on the  
11 rebuttable presumption that an award of sole or joint physical or legal custody of a child  
12 to a person who has perpetrated domestic violence is detrimental to the best interest of  
13 a child and establishes factor, thereby prioritizing the safety and well-being of children;  
14 and

15           WHEREAS, The amendments proposed by SB 899 are consistent with and  
16 further the intent of the Safety For All Act of 2016, ensuring that neither firearms nor  
17 ammunition fall into the hands of dangerous individuals, thereby safeguarding the  
18 community at large; and

19           WHEREAS, This legislation is supported by research from the Centers for  
20 Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), showing that California has one of the lowest  
21 firearm mortality rates in the nation, reflecting the state's commitment to robust gun  
22 safety laws, with SB 899 poised to further this commitment; and

23           WHEREAS, SB 899, exemplifies California's ongoing effort to prevent gun  
24 violence and protect its citizens, by ensuring that existing laws are implemented  
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1 effectively, and that individuals deemed a risk do not have access to firearms; now,  
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
4 Francisco hereby supports California Senate Bill 899 and urges its swift passage in the  
5 California Legislature; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is directed to  
7 transmit copies of this resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, President pro Tempore  
8 Mike McGuire, Speaker of the State Assembly Robert Rivas, State Senator Scott  
9 Wiener, Assemblymember Matt Haney, and Assemblymember Phil Ting, as an  
10 expression of San Francisco's strong support for SB 899 and its critical provisions  
11 aimed at enhancing public safety and preventing gun violence.

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