

NEWS

FROM THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER
PAUL KORETZ
FIFTH DISTRICT



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Los Angeles City Council Votes to Support Appeal of CA Assault Weapons Ban Miller, et al. v. Bonta *June is Gun Violence Prevention Month*

Los Angeles, CA - June 15, 2021 – Today the Los Angeles City Council voted to support a [motion](#) authored by Los Angeles City Councilmembers Paul Koretz of the Fifth Council District and Paul Krekorian of the Second Council District to file support of the California Attorney General’s appeal of Miller, et al. v. Bonta with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, which will seek to reverse the US District Court’s decision to strike down California’s assault weapons ban. The vote aims to uphold the State’s three-decade ban on assault weapons citing the need for public safety, public health, and efforts to curtail gun violence and mass shootings in the City of Los Angeles.

“Just this past weekend, there were six more mass shootings in the U.S., killing eight people and wounding 48 more, in Cleveland, Savannah, Austin, Dallas and Seattle. These shootings join a string of nearly 300 others that have already taken place this year,” said Councilmember Paul Koretz. “This country has a gun problem, and I shudder at the thought of the American death toll if Judge Benitez’s decision holds and military-style rifles flood our streets. The Judge’s decision is wildly out of touch with the will of California voters and a clear example of legislating from the bench, with very real consequences for the safety and health of Angelenos.:

"Judge Benitez' opinion is perhaps the most extremist ruling on guns ever made by a federal court, and it violates all federal precedent in its misinterpretation of the Second Amendment," said Councilmember Krekorian. "Every federal court in the country has always upheld bans on assault weapons because these weapons of war clearly are not protected for individual ownership by the Constitution. This decision reflects baseless and dangerous judicial activism in service to the NRA, and it must be overturned by the Ninth Circuit and the Supreme Court. The integrity of the Constitution and the safety of Californians depend upon it."

June is also Gun Violence Prevention month and both Councilmembers Koretz and Krekorian have a long legislative career both at the City of Los Angeles and as California State Legislators working on gun control. In 1988 while serving on the West Hollywood City Council, Koretz authored a citywide ban on semi-automatic rifles which helped build momentum for the subsequent statewide “assault weapons” ban. In 1996 while serving as Mayor of West Hollywood, he co-sponsored an ordinance banning the sale of so-called ‘Saturday Night Special’ handguns. In 2015 Councilmember Krekorian authored legislation that called for a citywide ban on large-capacity ammunition magazines within the City of Los Angeles. **Click [here](#) to watch video of today’s vote that includes speeches from Councilmembers on the Council Floor.**

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