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10
11 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
12 **FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

13 VIRGINIA DUNCAN, et al.,

14 Plaintiffs,

15 - v. -

16 XAVIER BECERRA, ATTORNEY GENERAL OF
17 THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

18 Defendant.

No. 3:17-cv-01017-BEN-JLB

**BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE
EVERYTOWN FOR GUN SAFETY
IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANT’S
OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS’
MOTION FOR SUMMARY
JUDGMENT OR,
ALTERNATIVELY, PARTIAL
SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

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CORPORATE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Everytown for Gun Safety has no parent corporation. It is not a publicly held corporation, has no stock and, therefore, no publicly held company owns ten percent or more of its stock.

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INTEREST OF AMICUS CURIAE

Everytown for Gun Safety (“Everytown”) is the nation’s largest gun violence prevention organization, with supporters in every state, including tens of thousands of California residents and the mayors of fifty California cities. It was founded in 2014 as the combined effort of Mayors Against Illegal Guns, a national, bipartisan coalition of mayors combating illegal guns and gun trafficking, and Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, an organization formed in the wake of the murder of twenty children and six adults in an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut by an individual using a firearm with a large-capacity magazine (“LCM”). Everytown’s mission includes defending laws regulating weapons deemed unreasonably dangerous through the use of amicus briefs providing historical context, social science, and doctrinal analysis that might otherwise be overlooked.¹

Everytown has a particular interest in this case because the Court’s June 19, 2017 Order included a discussion of a 2013 survey of recent mass shootings published by Everytown’s predecessor organization, Mayors Against Illegal Guns (the “Mayors’ Survey”).² Everytown submits this amicus brief, in part, to aid the Court in its analysis of whether Proposition 63 is reasonably tailored to address a serious public safety concern. Both the Mayors’ Survey and

¹ Everytown has filed such briefs in several recent cases, including in support of the Attorney General’s appeal of this Court’s June 29, 2017 Preliminary Injunction Order. *See, e.g.*, Brief for Everytown for Gun Safety as Amicus Curiae Supporting Defendant-Appellant, *Duncan v. Becerra*, No. 17-56081 (9th Cir. Oct. 19, 2017), ECF 47; Brief for Everytown for Gun Safety as Amicus Curiae Supporting Defendants, *Wiese v. Becerra*, 2:17-cv-00903-WBS-KJN (E.D. Cal. Oct. 4, 2017), ECF 63; Brief for Everytown for Gun Safety as Amicus Curiae Supporting Defendants, *Flanagan v. Becerra*, 2:16-cv-06164-JAK-AS (C.D. Cal. Sept. 18, 2017), ECF 54-1; Brief for Everytown for Gun Safety as Amicus Curiae Supporting Appellees, *Wrenn v. District of Columbia*, 864 F.3d 650 (D.C. Cir. July 20, 2016) (No. 16-7025), ECF 49; Brief for Everytown for Gun Safety as Amicus Curiae Supporting Appellee, *Peña v. Lindley*, No. 15-15449 (9th Cir. Sept. 28, 2015), ECF 34; Brief for Everytown for Gun Safety as Amicus Curiae Supporting Appellees, *Peruta v. Cty. of San Diego*, 824 F.3d 919 (9th Cir. Apr. 30, 2015) (Nos. 10-56971, 11-16255), ECF 150; Brief for Everytown for Gun Safety as Amicus Curiae Supporting Appellant, *Silvester v. Harris*, 843 F.3d 816 (9th Cir. Apr. 1, 2015) (No. 14-16840), ECF 34.

² *See Duncan v. Becerra*, 265 F. Supp. 3d 1106, 1122-28 (S.D. Cal. 2017) (hereinafter, “Preliminary Injunction Order”).

1 Everytown’s research indicate that LCMs increase shooting fatalities and casualties and support
2 Defendant’s position that Proposition 63 is constitutionally permissible.

3 **INTRODUCTION**

4 This case concerns California residents’ right to be free from gun violence and their
5 power to enact laws protecting that freedom. In light of the increasing toll of mass shootings,
6 and in response to a massacre at a 2015 San Bernardino office party, the people of California
7 sought legislation that would limit their risk of dying in one of these horrific crimes. Their
8 efforts resulted in California Proposition 63 (hereinafter, “Proposition 63”), which amends the
9 California Penal Code § 32310 to prohibit the sale or possession of LCMs of the type used in the
10 Newtown and San Bernardino mass shootings.³ The Ninth Circuit and every other Court of
11 Appeals that has considered this issue have found that such prohibitions on LCMs are
12 permissible under the Second Amendment.⁴ The Court should reach the same conclusion here in
13 considering Plaintiffs’ challenge to Proposition 63 and deny Plaintiffs’ Motion for Summary
14 Judgment.

15
16
17 ³ See Mary Ellen Clark & Noreen O’Donnell, *Newtown school gunman fired 154 rounds in less*
18 *than 5 minutes*, Reuters (Mar. 28, 2013, 8:55 AM), <https://reut.rs/2qBhAhR>; Mike McIntire,
19 *Weapons in San Bernardino Shootings Were Legally Obtained*, New York Times (Dec. 3, 2015),
<https://nyti.ms/2JPLR4F>.

20 ⁴ See *Fyock v. City of Sunnyvale*, 779 F.3d 991, 1001 (9th Cir. 2015) (upholding denial of
21 preliminary injunction of local ordinance restricting the possession of LCMs accepting more than
22 ten rounds); *Kolbe v. Hogan*, 849 F.3d 114, 137-38 (4th Cir. 2017) (en banc) (affirming the
23 finding that Maryland’s ban on LCMs over ten rounds was constitutional and holding that such
24 magazines were not protected by the Second Amendment); *N.Y. State Rifle & Pistol Ass’n v.*
25 *Cuomo*, 804 F.3d 242, 247 (2d Cir. 2015) (hereinafter, “*NYSRPA*”) (holding that New York and
26 Connecticut prohibitions on possessing LCMs holding over ten rounds did not violate the Second
27 Amendment); *Friedman v. City of Highland Park*, 784 F.3d 406, 412 (7th Cir. 2015) (holding
28 that local ordinance banning LCMs did not violate the Second Amendment); *Heller v. District of*
Columbia, 670 F.3d 1244, 1264 (D.C. Cir. 2011) (upholding D.C. prohibition on LCMs over ten
rounds); see also *Wiese v. Becerra*, 263 F. Supp. 3d 986, 999 (E.D. Cal. 2017) (rejecting motion
for preliminary injunction in case challenging same law at issue here); *Worman v. Healey*, — F.
Supp. 3d —, 2018 WL 1663445, at *46 (D. Mass. April 5, 2018) (upholding state law
prohibition on transfer or possession of assault weapons and LCMs); but see Preliminary
Injunction Order (enjoining Proposition 63 preliminarily and noting that Second Amendment
rights are not eliminated “simply” because high-capacity magazines are “unpopular”).

1 Courts in this Circuit analyze Second Amendment challenges through a two-step process:
2 first by assessing “whether the challenged law burdens conduct protected by the Second
3 Amendment” and then by “apply[ing] an appropriate level of scrutiny.” *United States v. Chovan*,
4 735 F.3d 1127, 1136 (9th Cir. 2013); accord Preliminary Injunction Order at 1118 (citing *Bauer*
5 *v. Becerra*, 858 F.3d 1216, 1221 (9th Cir. 2017)). There is strong support for Proposition 63 at
6 both steps of this analysis.

7 As an initial matter, Proposition 63 is part of a long tradition of regulating or prohibiting
8 weapons that legislatures have determined to be unacceptably dangerous—including a century of
9 restrictions on firearms capable of firing a large number of rounds without reloading. This
10 historical tradition alone is sufficient for this Court to find Proposition 63 constitutional under
11 *Heller*. See *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570, 626-27 (2008) (“[N]othing in our
12 opinion should be taken to cast doubt on longstanding prohibitions on the possession of firearms
13 . . . or laws imposing conditions and qualifications on the commercial sale of arms.”).

14 The Court should also reject Plaintiffs’ argument that the national prevalence of a firearm
15 feature places such a feature under the Second Amendment’s protection. This approach cannot
16 be reconciled with the Second Amendment exceptions articulated by the Supreme Court in
17 *Heller* and by other circuits that have addressed this issue. See, e.g., *id.* at 626-627 (recognizing
18 that the Second Amendment is “not a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever” and “M-
19 16 rifles and the like—may be banned”); *Kolbe*, 849 F.3d at 121 (holding that LCMs “are among
20 those arms . . . the *Heller* Court singled out as being beyond the Second Amendment’s reach”);
21 *Friedman*, 784 F.3d at 407-08 (noting that under *Heller*, the Second Amendment does not
22 protect “military-grade weapons . . . and weapons especially attractive to criminals”). Moreover,
23 the “common use” test would transform the constitutional analysis into a consumer referendum
24 and render existing firearms and firearm features like LCMs effectively immune from regulation.

25 To the extent that the Court engages in the second step of Second Amendment analysis
26 and considers the Mayors’ Survey in assessing whether Proposition 63 is appropriately tailored,
27 the Court should reconsider its prior conclusions about the report. Specifically, the Court should
28

1 note that the Mayors’ Survey does not purport to show, for every mass shooting listed, whether
 2 an LCM was used. Instead, it simply includes the limited publicly available information about
 3 magazine capacity in mass shootings. Viewed in the proper context, the Mayors’ Survey, as well
 4 as other relevant social science, demonstrates that LCMs make mass shootings more deadly and
 5 supports the reasonable fit of Proposition 63 in addressing California residents’ public safety
 6 concerns.

7 ARGUMENT

8 I. California’s Prohibition of Large-Capacity Magazines Is Part of a 9 Longstanding History of Identical and Analogous Prohibitions

10 As both the Supreme Court and the Ninth Circuit have emphasized, “longstanding
 11 prohibitions” on the possession of certain types of weapons are “traditionally understood to be
 12 outside the scope of the Second Amendment.” *Fyock*, 779 F.3d at 997; *see Heller*, 554 U.S. at
 13 626-27, 635 (noting that such “longstanding” regulations are treated as tradition-based
 14 “exceptions” by virtue of their “historical justifications”).⁵ These longstanding prohibitions need
 15 not “mirror limits that were on the books in 1791.” *United States v. Skoien*, 614 F.3d 638, 641
 16 (7th Cir. 2010) (en banc). Instead, courts have found that even “early twentieth century
 17 regulations might nevertheless demonstrate a history of longstanding regulation if their historical
 18 prevalence and significance is properly developed in the record.” *Fyock*, 779 F.3d at 997 (citing
 19 *Nat’l Rifle Ass’n of Am. v. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives*, 700 F.3d 185,
 20 196 (5th Cir. 2012)).⁶

22 ⁵ *See also United States v. Marzzarella*, 614 F.3d 85, 91 (3d Cir. 2010) (“[L]ongstanding
 23 limitations are exceptions to the right to bear arms”); *United States v. Chester*, 628 F.3d 673, 680
 24 (4th Cir. 2010) (noting that a law does not violate the Second Amendment if it does not infringe
 upon “conduct that was within the scope of the Second Amendment as historically understood”).

25 ⁶ *See also Friedman*, 784 F.3d at 408 (noting that “*Heller* deemed a ban on private possession of
 26 machine guns to be obviously valid” despite the fact that “states didn’t begin to regulate private
 27 use of machine guns until 1927,” and that “regulating machine guns at the federal level” did not
 28 begin until 1934); *Skoien*, 614 F.3d at 639-41 (noting that “prohibitions on the possession of
 firearms by felons and the mentally ill” have been found to be sufficiently longstanding, despite
 the fact that “[t]he first federal statute disqualifying felons from possessing firearms was not
 enacted until 1938” and that “the ban on possession by *all* felons was not enacted until 1961”).

1 Proposition 63 is part of a long tradition of regulating or prohibiting weapons that
2 lawmakers have determined to be unacceptably dangerous—including a century of restrictions
3 enacted shortly after semi-automatic weapons became widely commercially available that
4 pertained to firearms capable of firing a large number of rounds without reloading. *See* Robert
5 Spitzer, *Gun Law History in the United States and Second Amendment Rights*, 80 *Law &*
6 *Contemp. Probs.* 55, 68-69, 72 (2017) (explaining that “[firearm] laws were enacted not when
7 these weapons were invented, but when they began to circulate widely in society”). Many of
8 these laws were passed around the same time as the prohibitions on sales to felons and the
9 mentally ill and restrictions on commercial sale of arms that *Heller* identified as longstanding.
10 *See id.* at 82 (discussing the passage of prohibitions on possession of firearms by felons and the
11 mentally ill in the early 20th century and the possession of semi-automatic weapons with LCMs
12 in the 1920s and 1930s). This historical tradition alone is sufficient for the Court to find
13 Proposition 63 constitutional under *Heller*. *See Heller*, 554 U.S. at 626-27 (“[N]othing in our
14 opinion should be taken to cast doubt on longstanding prohibition on possession of firearms . . .
15 or laws imposing conditions and qualifications on the commercial sale of arms.”); *Teixeira v.*
16 *Cty. of Alameda*, 873 F.3d 670, 673, 682-90 (9th Cir. 2017) (en banc) (applying “a textual and
17 historical analysis” to conclude that “the Second Amendment . . . does not confer a freestanding
18 right . . . to sell firearms”) *petition for cert. filed*, No. 17-982 (Jan. 8, 2018).

19 **A. There Is a Longstanding Tradition of Prohibiting Firearms Capable**
20 **of Quickly Firing Multiple Rounds Without Reloading**

21 States have regulated the ammunition capacity of semi-automatic firearms since they first
22 became widely commercially available at the turn of the twentieth century. *See* Robert Johnson
23 & Geoffrey Ingersoll, *It’s Incredible How Much Guns Have Advanced Since the Second*
24 *Amendment*, *Business Insider: Military & Defense* (Dec. 17, 2012), <http://read.bi/2x12PpU>
25 (explaining that semi-automatic weapons became commercially available in the early 1900s).
26 Such laws often categorized large-capacity, semi-automatic firearms, along with fully automatic
27 weapons, as “machine guns,” and imposed restrictions that effectively prohibited them entirely.
28

1 *See, e.g.*, 1927 R.I. Pub. Laws 256, §§ 1, 4 (prohibiting the “manufacture, s[ale], purchase or
 2 possess[ion]” of a “machine gun,” which it defined as “any weapon which shoots more than
 3 twelve shots semi-automatically without reloading”); 1927 Mich. Pub. Acts 887, § 3 (prohibiting
 4 possession of “any machine gun or firearm which can be fired more than sixteen times without
 5 reloading”).

6 In 1928, the National Conference on Uniform State Laws (now the Uniform Law
 7 Commission) adopted a model law prohibiting possession of “any firearm which shoots more
 8 than twelve shots semi-automatically without reloading,” setting the national standard for laws
 9 prohibiting possession of semi-automatic firearms with large magazine capacities. *See Report of*
 10 *Firearms Committee, 38th Conference Handbook of the National Conference on Uniform State*
 11 *Laws and Proceedings of the Annual Meeting 422-23 (1928).*⁷ Shortly thereafter, the federal
 12 government enacted a similar prohibition applicable to the District of Columbia. *See 47 Stat.*
 13 *650, ch. 465, §§ 1, 14 (1932)* (making it a crime to “possess any machine gun,” which it defined
 14 as “any firearm which shoots . . . semiautomatically more than twelve shots without loading”).
 15 The National Rifle Association endorsed passage of the D.C. law, saying, “it is our desire [that]
 16 this legislation be enacted for the District of Columbia, in which case it can then be used as a
 17 guide throughout the states of the Union.” S. Rep. No. 72-575, at 5-6 (1932).

18 California first banned automatic weapons in 1927⁸ and expanded this prohibition with a
 19 1933 statute that prohibited the sale or possession of not only “all firearms . . . capable of
 20 discharging automatically,” but also “all firearms which are automatically fed after each
 21 discharge from or by means of clips, discs, drums, belts or other separable mechanical device
 22 _____

23 ⁷ This standard originated with a model law promulgated by the National Crime Commission in
 1927. *Report of Firearms Committee*, at 422-23.

24 ⁸ *See 1927 Cal. Stat. 938, An Act to Prohibit the Possession of Machine Rifles, Machine Guns*
 25 *and Submachine Guns Capable of Automatically and Continuously Discharging Loaded*
 26 *Ammunition of any Caliber in Which the Ammunition is Fed to Such Guns from or by Means of*
 27 *Clips, Disks, Drums, Belts or Other Separable Mechanical Device, and Providing a Penalty for*
 28 *Violation Thereof, ch. 552, §§ 1-2* (prohibiting “all firearms known as machine rifles, machine
 guns or submachine guns capable of discharging automatically and continuously loaded
 ammunition of any caliber in which the ammunition is fed to such gun from or by means of clips,
 disks, drums, belts or other separable mechanical device”).

1 *having a capacity of greater than ten cartridges.”* 1933 Cal. Stat. 1170, § 3 (emphasis added).
 2 These statutes were at least as restrictive as Proposition 63, and indeed appear more restrictive
 3 inasmuch as the 1933 law prohibited *firearms* capable of receiving LCMs, rather than only the
 4 LCMs at issue here. *See id.* Several other states, including Minnesota, Ohio, and Virginia, also
 5 prohibited or regulated firearms based on magazine capacity.⁹ Other states passed laws limiting
 6 possession of automatic weapons based on the number of rounds that a firearm could discharge
 7 without reloading.¹⁰

8 The federal government then embraced such regulations in 1934 when Congress enacted
 9 the National Firearms Act. *See* 48 Stat. 1236, 1246 (1934) (requiring registration of automatic
 10 weapons, short-barreled rifles and shotguns, and a variety of concealable and disguised firearms,
 11 and imposing a significant transfer tax on these weapons). The Supreme Court unanimously
 12 upheld the National Firearms Act in one of its few pre-*Heller* Second Amendment decisions.
 13 *See United States v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 174, 178 (1939) (affirming that the Second Amendment
 14 does not guarantee the right to keep and bear short-barreled shotguns).

15 As this historical record shows, Proposition 63 reflects the continuation of nearly a
 16 century of valid restrictions based on the ability to shoot large numbers of rounds in a short time
 17 without reloading.

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 22 ⁹ *See* 1933 Minn. Laws 232, § 1 (banning “[a]ny firearm capable of automatically reloading after
 23 each shot is fired, whether firing singly by separate trigger pressure or firing continuously” if the
 24 weapon was modified to allow for a larger magazine capacity); 1933 Ohio Laws 189, § 1
 25 (banning “any firearm which shoots more than eighteen shots semi-automatically without
 reloading”); 1934 Va. Acts 137, § 1 (effectively prohibiting possession or use of “weapons . . .
 from which more than sixteen shots or bullets may be rapidly, automatically, semi-automatically
 or otherwise discharged without reloading”).

26 ¹⁰ These limitations were more stringent than California’s current magazine prohibition of ten
 27 rounds. *See* 1933 S.D. Sess. Laws 245, § 1 (five rounds); 1933 Tex. Gen. Laws 219, § 1 (five
 28 rounds); 1934 Va. Acts 137, § 1 (seven rounds for automatics, 16 for semi-automatics); 1931 Ill.
 Laws 452, § 1 (eight rounds); 1932 La. Acts 337, § 1 (eight rounds); 1934 S.C. Acts 1288, § 1
 (eight rounds).

1 **B. Proposition 63 Is Consistent with Centuries of Laws Prohibiting**
 2 **Weapons Deemed to Be Especially Dangerous**

3 The statute at issue here is also part of a long history of government prohibition of
 4 weapons that pose heightened threats to public safety, either because the weapons themselves are
 5 particularly lethal or because they are especially suitable for criminal use.

6 Prohibitions on weapons deemed to be especially dangerous date back to early English
 7 legal history, beginning with the 1383 prohibition of launcegays (a particularly lethal type of
 8 spear) and the 1541 prohibition of crossbows and firearms less than a yard long. *See* 7 Ric. 2,
 9 35, ch. 13 (1383); 33 Hen. 8, ch. 6, § 1 (1541). The regulation of unusually dangerous weapons
 10 continued as the American colonies and first states adapted the English tradition. *See generally*
 11 1763-1775 N.J. Laws 346 (prohibiting set or trap guns); The Laws of Plymouth Colony (1671)
 12 (same); Records of the Colony of New Plymouth in New England 230 (Boston 1861) (same).

13 States continued to pass prohibitions or regulations on unreasonably dangerous weapons
 14 after ratification of the Second Amendment. For example, several states banned or placed
 15 prohibitively high taxes on Bowie knives,¹¹ the assault weapon of their time, which were
 16 determined to be “instrument[s] of almost certain death.” *See Cockrum v. State*, 24 Tex. 394,
 17 402 (1859) (finding Bowie knives are “differ[ent] from [guns, pistols, or swords] in [their]
 18 device and design” and are therefore more accurate and lethal than other contemporary
 19 weapons). In addition, a number of states prohibited certain types of small and easily
 20 concealable handguns, which were determined to be ideal for criminal use.¹²

21
 22
 23 _____
 24 ¹¹ *See* 1837 Ala. Laws 7, § 1 (prohibitively taxing Bowie knives); 1837 Ga. Laws 90 (banning
 25 Bowie knives); 1837-1838 Tenn. Pub. Acts 200 (prohibiting the sale of Bowie knives); *Aymette*
 26 *v. State*, 21 Tenn. 154, 158 (1840) (justifying a prohibition on Bowie knives on the basis that
 27 they are “weapons which are usually employed in private broils, and which are efficient only in
 28 the hands of the robber and the assassin”).

¹² *See* 1881 Ark. Acts § 1909 (pocket pistols and “any kind of cartridge[] for any pistol”); 1879
 Tenn. Pub. Acts 135, ch. 96, § 1 (“belt or pocket pistols, or revolvers, or any other kind of
 pistols, except army or navy pistol”); 1907 Ala. Law 80, § 1 (similar); 1903 S.C. Acts 127, § 1
 (similar).

1 Throughout the early twentieth century, many states passed laws prohibiting unusually
 2 dangerous weapons or weapon features, such as silencers, as the technology of firearms and
 3 other dangerous weapons evolved.¹³ At least 28 states, as well as the federal government, passed
 4 prohibitions or severe restrictions on automatic weapons in the 1920s and 1930s, along with the
 5 restrictions on large capacity semi-automatic weapons discussed above. *See supra* Part I.

6 Within this historical context, California’s prohibition on LCMs can be understood as
 7 merely the latest part of a longstanding tradition of government prohibition or regulation of
 8 unusually dangerous weapons. This long history of analogous regulation further supports the
 9 conclusion that Proposition 63 does not burden a “right secured by the Second Amendment.”
 10 *Heller*, 554 U.S. at 626-27.

11 **II. The “Common Use” Test Is Illogical and Should Not Be Followed**

12 In analyzing a Second Amendment challenge, courts, including this Court, should not
 13 utilize a test that focuses on whether the law bans firearms that are “commonly used for a lawful
 14 purpose.”¹⁴ Preliminary Injunction Order at *18-19. Respectfully, this test is not well grounded
 15 in Second Amendment jurisprudence and does not fully account for important principles of
 16 federalism. These flaws exist whether the test is applied categorically or as a threshold question
 17 at step one of the prevailing Second Amendment analysis.

18 The position that LCMs must be afforded Second Amendment protection because they
 19 are widely available misconstrues the Supreme Court’s decision in *Heller* to suggest that a

21 ¹³ *See, e.g.*, 1909 Me. Laws 141 (prohibiting silencers); 1912 Vt. Acts & Resolves 310, § 1
 22 (same); 1913 Minn. Laws 55 (same); 1916 N.Y. Laws 338-39, ch. 137, § 1 (same); 1926 Mass.
 23 Acts 256, ch. 261 (same); 1927 Mich. Pub. Acts 887-89, § 3 (same); 1927 R.I. Pub. Laws 256, §
 24 1 (same). States also banned a wide variety of unusually dangerous weapons, including
 25 blackjacks and billy clubs, slung-shots (a metal or stone weight tied to a string), brass knuckles,
 26 various kinds of knives, and explosives. *See, e.g.*, 1917 Cal. Stat. 221, ch. 145, § 1 (blackjacks
 27 and billy clubs); 1911 N.Y. Laws 442, ch. 195, § 1 (slung-shots); 1917 Minn. Laws 614, ch. 243,
 28 § 1 (brass knuckles); 1913 Iowa Acts 307, ch. 297, § 2 (daggers and similar-length knives); 1927
 Mich. Pub. Acts 887, No. 372, § 3 (explosives).

¹⁴ This test was not used in *Heller*, but rather was articulated by two justices in dissent from a
 denial of certiorari in *Friedman v. City of Highland Park*, 136 S. Ct. 447, 449 (2015) (Thomas,
 J., joined by Scalia, J., dissenting from denial of certiorari); *see also Caetano v. Massachusetts*,
 136 S. Ct. 1027, 1032 (2016) (Alito, J., joined by Thomas, J., concurring in the judgment). It has
 never been endorsed by a majority of the Supreme Court. *See Kolbe*, 849 F.3d at 142.

1 product's significant presence in the national market triggers Second Amendment protection.
2 The Court in *Heller* held that the Second Amendment "does not protect those weapons not
3 typically possessed by law-abiding citizens for lawful purposes, such as short-barreled
4 shotguns." 554 U.S. at 625. But it does not follow that the Second Amendment necessarily
5 protects all weapons that have achieved a degree of commercial success. *See Kolbe*, 849 F.3d at
6 142 ("The *Heller* majority said nothing to confirm that it was sponsoring the popularity test.");
7 *Worman*, 2018 WL 1663445, at *10 ("[P]resent day popularity is not constitutionally material.").

8 In addition to lacking firm jurisprudential foundation, the "common use" test ultimately
9 proves hopelessly circular. Following this approach would allow the constitutionality of
10 weapons prohibitions to be decided not by how dangerous a weapon is, but rather by "how
11 widely it is circulated to law-abiding citizens by the time a bar on its private possession has been
12 enacted and challenged." *Kolbe*, 849 F.3d at 141. As this Court has recognized, "it would be
13 absurd to say that the reason why a particular weapon can be banned is that there is a statute
14 banning it, so that it isn't commonly owned," Preliminary Injunction Order at 19 (quoting
15 *Friedman*, 784 F.3d at 409). It would be similarly absurd to allow the fact that a law previously
16 did not exist to stand as a constitutional bar to its enactment. *See Joseph Blocher & Darrell A.H.*
17 *Miller, Lethality, Public Carry, and Adequate Alternatives*, 53 Harv. J. on Legis. 279, 288 (2016)
18 (discussing the "central circularity" that plagues the "common use" test: "what is common
19 depends largely on what is, and has been, subject to regulation"). Yet this is what application of
20 the "common use" test would dictate here.

21 This approach also lacks guidance as to whether a court should determine "common use"
22 by considering the number of LCMs produced or sold or the number of law-abiding owners of
23 the same. *See Kolbe*, 849 F.3d at 135-36. This distinction is critical because firearm ownership
24 is extremely concentrated, with 3% of American adults possessing 50% of the country's guns.
25 *See Lois Beckett, Meet America's Gun Super-Owners—With An Average of 17 Firearms Each*,
26 *The Trace* (Sept. 20, 2016), <http://bit.ly/2d89dGH>. If production or sales numbers form the basis
27 of the common use analysis, this small group of gun owners would be essentially placed in
28

1 control of the meaning of the Second Amendment. This tyranny by a tiny minority cannot be
2 what the *Heller* Court intended. A constitutional analysis driven by the prevalence of the
3 prohibited firearm in the market also creates perverse incentives for the firearms industry, giving
4 it the unilateral ability to insulate highly dangerous firearms, and firearm features, with Second
5 Amendment protection “simply by manufacturing and heavily marketing them” before the
6 government has had the chance to assess their danger, determine whether to regulate them and
7 build the political momentum to actually do so. Cody J. Jacobs, *End the Popularity Contest: A*
8 *Proposal for Second Amendment “Type of Weapon” Analysis*, 83 Tenn. L. Rev. 231, 265 (2015).

9 Such an approach also raises federalism concerns, as states that fail to immediately
10 regulate new and potentially dangerous firearms or firearm features would risk losing the ability
11 to do so if such firearms or features are quickly adopted by consumers in other states.¹⁵ Thus,
12 firearm safety decisions made in some states would render the laws of other states “more or less
13 open to challenge under the Second Amendment,” and “would imply that no jurisdiction other
14 than the United States as a whole can regulate firearms.” *Friedman*, 784 F.3d at 412. But *Heller*
15 “does not foreclose *all* possibility of experimentation” by state and local governments.
16 *Friedman*, 784 F.3d at 408, 412. Rather, it permits states and localities to do what they have
17 long done in the realm of firearm legislation: “experiment with solutions to admittedly serious
18 problems,” *Jackson v. City & Cty. of San Francisco*, 746 F.3d 953, 966 (9th Cir. 2014) (quoting
19 *City of Renton v. Playtime Theatres, Inc.* 475 U.S. 41, 52 (1986)).

20 The Court should instead be guided by the Fourth Circuit’s en banc opinion in *Kolbe*, and
21 the historical tradition discussed above, along with governing Ninth Circuit precedent, and
22 consider whether the firearm, or firearm component, at issue is appropriate for self-defense or
23 instead is a weapon designed to produce mass casualties. *See* 849 F.3d at 121. The *Kolbe* court
24 found that “large-capacity magazines . . . [that] allow a shooter to fire more than ten rounds
25

26 ¹⁵ A counterfactual further demonstrates why the “common use” test is inappropriate: If
27 Congress had renewed the federal prohibition on LCMs rather than permitting it to lapse in 2004,
28 the weapons prohibited by Proposition 63 would not be in widespread use today and would
therefore not be subject to Second Amendment protection under Plaintiffs’ “common use”
theory.

1 without having to pause to reload . . . ‘are particularly designed and most suitable for military
 2 and law enforcement applications’ [as they] enhance a shooter’s capacity to shoot multiple
 3 human targets very rapidly.” *Id.* at 125 (internal citations omitted); *see id.* at 137 (noting that
 4 LCMs “are a ‘uniquely military feature[.]’”). “Because . . . large-capacity magazines are clearly
 5 most useful in military service,” the *Kolbe* court held that it was “compelled by *Heller* to
 6 recognize that those . . . magazines are not constitutionally protected.” *Id.* at 137. The same
 7 reasoning should apply to the Court’s analysis here as well. *See Worman*, 2018 WL 1663445, at
 8 *10 (following *Kolbe*, and holding that “LCMs are most useful in military service [and therefore]
 9 . . . beyond the scope of the Second Amendment”); *see also NYSRPA*, 804 F.3d at 256 (noting
 10 that *Heller* permitted the prohibition of military-grade weapons “without implicating the Second
 11 Amendment” before applying intermediate scrutiny to an assault weapon and LCM prohibition);
 12 *Friedman*, 784 F.3d at 408 (noting that, under *Heller*, the Second Amendment does not protect
 13 “military-grade weapons” or “weapons especially attractive to criminals” before applying
 14 intermediate scrutiny to an assault weapon and LCM prohibition).

15 **III. Use of Large Capacity Magazines Makes Mass Shootings and Other Incidents of** 16 **Gun Violence Deadlier, as Shown by the Mayors’ Survey and Other Research**

17 The use of LCMs, whether in mass shootings or in everyday gun violence, results in more
 18 people being shot, more injuries per victim, and more deaths. Both the Mayors’ Survey and the
 19 relevant social science research indicate that the use of LCMs makes shootings more dangerous
 20 and more deadly. By prohibiting the possession and use of LCMs throughout California,
 21 Proposition 63 is a reasonably tailored attempt to address this serious public safety concern, and
 22 is thus constitutional, for this reason as well.

23 **A. The Mayors’ Survey Shows that the Use of LCMs In Mass Shootings Results** 24 **in More Deaths and More Injuries**

25 In its June 29, 2017 Preliminary Injunction Order, the Court relied on the Mayors’ Survey
 26 as a basis for the conclusion that “§ 32310 makes for an uncomfortably poor fit” with
 27 California’s goal of reducing mass shootings. Preliminary Injunction Order at *33. Everytown
 28

1 respectfully submits that this conclusion is not supported by the Mayors' Survey. First, the
 2 Mayors' Survey notes that available information on magazine capacity is incomplete.
 3 Accordingly, the Court should not assume that the mass shootings listed without information
 4 about magazine capacity did *not* involve an LCM. In fact, in most cases, such information
 5 simply was not available.¹⁶ In over two-thirds of the mass shootings listed in the Mayors'
 6 Survey the "ammo details" information is listed as "unknown." *See* Mayors' Survey, Exhibit 59
 7 to the Declaration of Alexandra Robert Gordon in Support of Defendant Attorney General
 8 Xavier Becerra's Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Injunction, 128-62, *Duncan v.*
 9 *Becerra*, No. 17-cv-1017-BEN-JLB (S.D. Cal. May 17, 2017). The researchers responsible for
 10 the Mayors' Survey relied on press coverage and FBI data for details regarding individual mass
 11 shootings. *See* Mayors' Survey at 2. But not all press coverage regarding mass shootings
 12 addresses the magazine capacity of the weapons used. Everytown's own tracking of such crimes
 13 demonstrates the limited information available through media coverage.¹⁷

14 To the contrary, where information about the ammunition used in a mass shooting is
 15 unknown, one might reasonably assume that an LCM was involved. In those jurisdictions
 16 without existing LCM restrictions, many popular handguns and most semi-automatic rifles are
 17 sold with LCMs as a standard feature.¹⁸ In fact, in eleven of the incidents that this Court
 18 characterized as not involving LCMs, a weapon was used that comes standard with an LCM.¹⁹

19
 20
 21 ¹⁶ For instance, for the Fort Hood shooting, the Mayors' Survey does not indicate whether LCMs
 22 were used. *See* Mayors' Survey, at 30. However, later reporting showed that the shooter used
 23 several LCMs to kill thirteen and wound thirty-one people. Rich Jervis & Doug Stanglin, *Nidal*
Hasan Found Guilty in Fort Hood Killings, USA Today (Aug. 23, 2013),
<https://usat.ly/2gMymFZ> (noting the use of several high-capacity magazines).

24 ¹⁷ Everytown continues to track mass shootings (incidents in which four or more people are
 25 killed with a firearm, not including the shooter). From 2009 to 2016, there were 156 mass
 26 shootings, resulting in 848 people shot and killed and 339 people shot and injured. *See*
 Everytown for Gun Safety, *Mass Shootings in the United States: 2009-2016* (Apr. 11, 2017),
<http://every.tw/1XVAmcc>. Many of these shootings did not receive national media attention.

27 ¹⁸ *See, e.g., Glock 19*, Glock, <http://bit.ly/1UYJ1vZ> (last visited Apr. 12, 2018) (listing standard
 28 magazine capacity as 15 rounds); *Glock 17*, Glock, <http://bit.ly/1OOg2HH> (last visited Apr. 12,
 2018) (17 rounds); *Beretta M9 Pistols*, Cabela's, <http://bit.ly/2xMx2IW> (last visited Apr. 12,
 2017) (listing models with capacities of 10 and 15 rounds); Colt M-4 Carbine,

1 While the Mayors' Survey and Everytown's subsequent research do not present a
 2 comprehensive dataset of the magazines used in mass shootings, the data they do include
 3 indicates that LCMs make shootings significantly more deadly. The Mayors' Survey shows that,
 4 on average, shooters who use LCMs, or assault weapons (which are typically equipped with
 5 LCMs), shoot more than twice as many victims (151% more) and kill 63% more victims as
 6 compared to other mass shooters. Mayors' Survey at 3. Data from Everytown's continued
 7 tracking of mass shootings also shows that where an assault-style weapon is used,²⁰ an average
 8 of twice as many people are killed (10.1 per shooting vs. 4.9) and more than ten times as many
 9 are shot and injured (11.4 per shooting vs. 1.1). *See* Everytown for Gun Safety, appendix to
 10 *Mass Shootings in the United States: 2009-2016* (Apr. 11 2017), <https://every.tw/2JPBIVz>; *see*
 11 *also* Louis Klarevas, *Rampage Nation: Securing America from Mass Shootings* 221 (2016)
 12 (finding the use of LCMs in high casualty mass shootings increased the death toll by 17%).

13 The applicable time period for the Mayors' Survey, January 2009 to September 2013,
 14 also excludes multiple post-September 2013 mass shootings involving LCMs that have occurred
 15 since the Mayors' Survey was released, including the shooting in San Bernardino, California,
 16 that resulted in fourteen deaths and twenty-two injuries, the massacre of forty-nine people and
 17 wounding of fifty-three more in a nightclub in Orlando, Florida, the attack in Las Vegas, in
 18 which the shooter used dozens of LCMs to fire hundreds of rounds into a concert crowd resulting
 19

20 <https://bit.ly/2JxXL2L> (last visited Apr. 12, 2018) (30 rounds); Smith and Wesson M&P 15,
 21 <https://bit.ly/2IGvRBr> (last Visited Apr. 12, 2018) (30 rounds).

22 ¹⁹ *See* Mayors' Survey, at 2-13 (listing the weapons used in incidents as follows: Hialeah, Fla.
 23 7/16/13 ("Glock 17"); Albuquerque, N.M. 1/19/13 ("AR-15"); Minneapolis, Minn. 9/27/12
 24 ("Glock 9mm"); Oak Creek, Wis. 8/5/12 (LCM-capable "9mm semiautomatic handgun,"
 25 purchased along with three 19-round magazines); Carson City, Nev. 9/6/2011 ("Norinco Mak 90
 26 . . . Romarm/Cugir AK-47 . . . Glock 26"); Washington, D.C. 3/30/10 ("AK-47"); Appomattox,
 Va. 1/19/10 ("high-powered rifle"); Osage, Kan. 11/28/09 ("Assault Rifle"); Fort Hood, Tex.
 11/5/09 ("FN Five-Seven", which comes equipped with a 10 or 20 round magazine); Mount
 Airy, N.C. 11/1/09 ("Assault Rifle"); Geneva Cty., Ala. 3/10/09 ("Bushmaster AR-15, SKS
 Rifle").

27 ²⁰ Assault weapons, which are generally sold with LCMs, serve as a reasonable, though
 28 underinclusive, proxy for LCMs. Everytown stopped tracking magazine capacity after the 2013
 report due to the difficulty of obtaining comprehensive data discussed above.

1 in the death of fifty-nine people and the injury of over 500 more, and the attack on a church in
 2 Sutherland Springs, Texas that resulted in twenty-six deaths and twenty injuries.²¹

3 Mass shootings involving LCMs also have a unique impact that the Court should
 4 consider when weighing the significant harm caused by LCMs. Mass shootings like those that
 5 occurred in Aurora, Sandy Hook, Tucson, Orlando, Las Vegas, Sutherland Springs and Parkland
 6 sear themselves into the national consciousness and affect the way people live their everyday
 7 lives. *See* Alana Abramson, *After Newtown, Schools Across the Country Crack Down on*
 8 *Security*, ABC News (Aug. 21, 2013), <http://abcn.ws/1KwN9Ls> (comparing the impact of the
 9 Sandy Hook shooting on school security to that of 9/11 on airport security and noting school
 10 districts have spent tens of millions of dollars on security improvements); *see also* Friedman,
 11 784 F.3d at 412 (noting that mass shootings “are highly salient”). Moreover, at least nine of the
 12 ten deadliest mass shootings in modern American history involved the use of a gun with an
 13 LCM.²² While mass shootings on the scale of these tragedies remain statistically rare, their
 14 enormous impact reinforces the justifications for California’s law.

15
 16 ²¹ *See* Everytown for Gun Safety, appendix to *Mass Shootings*, *supra* p. 14, at 3, 6; *see* Jackie
 17 Valley et al., *No Clear Motive in Las Vegas Strip Shooting That Killed 59, Injured 527*, Nevada
 18 Independent (Oct. 2, 2017), <http://bit.ly/2x4m4is>; Lia Eustachewich & Danika Fears, *Las Vegas*
 19 *Shooter Had Cache of Weapons in Hotel Room*, New York Post (October 2, 2017),
 20 <https://nyp.st/2qCjqzj>; Jason Hanna & Holly Yan, *Sutherland Springs church shooting: What we*
 21 *know*, CNN.com (Nov. 7, 2017), <https://cnn.it/2HlsfV6>.

22 ²²Las Vegas, Nev. (58 Fatalities); Orlando, Fla. (49); Blacksburg, Va. (32); Newtown, Conn.
 23 (26); Sutherland Springs, Tex. (26); Killeen, Tex. (23); San Ysidro, Cal. (21); Austin, Tex. (18);
 24 San Bernardino, Cal. (14). *See* Violence Policy Center, *High Capacity Ammunition Magazines*
 25 *are the Common Thread Running Through Most Mass Shootings in the United States*,
 26 http://www.vpc.org/fact_sht/VPCshootinglist.pdf. Information on the magazines used in the
 27 Texas Tower shooting in Austin, Tex. is unavailable, but the M1 Carbine used comes standard
 28 with a either a 15 or 30 round box magazine. *See* O. Ricardo Pimentel, *Nearly 50 Years Ago,*
bravery at UT tower, MySA.com (June 19, 2016), <https://bit.ly/2JAqu7s>; Frank Iannamico,
Design and Development of the U.S. Carbine Thirty Round Magazine, Small Arms Review (May
 13, 2013). The attack on Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland Florida, which
 killed seventeen and injured at least fifteen people, involved use of a Smith and Wesson M&P
 15, which comes standard with a thirty round magazine. Bart Jansen, *Florida shooting suspect*
bought gun legally, authorities say, USAToday.com (Feb. 15, 2018), <https://usat.ly/2F9kBfH>. It
 has been reported that the shooter “abandoned at least six magazines that each contained 30
 bullets at the scene of the shooting.” Paula McMahan, *Nikolas Cruz left 180 rounds of*
ammunition – with swastikas – at Parkland school, sources say, Sun Sentinel (Mar. 2, 2018, 1:20

1 **B. Social Science Research Shows LCMs Pose a Serious Risk to Public Safety**

2 Additional research supports the conclusion reached by both the people of California and
3 the State Legislature: that LCMs pose a significant danger to public safety. State prohibitions on
4 LCMs are correlated with a 63% lower rate of shootings with three or more casualties. *See* Sam
5 Petulla, *Here is 1 Correlation Between State Gun Laws and Mass Shootings*, CNN.com (Oct. 5,
6 2017), <https://www.cnn.com/2017/10/05/politics/gun-laws-magazines-las-vegas/index.html>
7 (noting Boston University Professor Michael Siegel’s conclusion that “[w]hether a state has a
8 [LCM] ban is the single best predictor of the mass shooting rate in that state”).

9 Several studies also indicate that criminals are increasingly using LCMs in everyday
10 violent crimes, as evidenced by the number of LCMs recovered by police. *See, e.g.*, Brian
11 Freskos, *Baltimore Police Are Recovering More Guns Loaded With High-Capacity Magazines,*
12 *Despite Ban on Sales*, The Trace (March 27, 2017), <http://bit.ly/2o1UQrr> (noting a more than 5%
13 increase in the percentage of guns recovered with LCMs by Baltimore police from 2010 to 2016,
14 despite Maryland’s 2013 law prohibiting the sale or manufacture of LCMs); David Fallis, *Data*
15 *Indicate Drop in High Capacity Magazines During Federal Gun Ban*, Washington Post, (Jan. 10,
16 2013), <http://wapo.st/2wV9EMX> (noting that the percentage of LCM-equipped guns recovered
17 by Virginia police has more than doubled since the federal LCM ban expired in 2004). Indeed, a
18 recent study found that assault weapons and LCM-compatible firearms “appear to account for 22
19 to 36% of crime guns in most places, with some estimates upwards of 40% for cases involving
20 serious violence.” Christopher S. Koper et al., *Criminal Use of Assault Weapons and High-*
21 *Capacity Semiautomatic Firearms: an Updated Examination of Local and National Sources*, J.
22 Urb. Health (Oct. 2017), at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28971349>.

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24
25
26 PM), <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/local/broward/parkland/florida-school-shooting/fl-florida-school-shooting-nikolas-cruz-left-180-rounds-20180302-story.html>. However, other sources
27 reported that the shooter “went in with only 10-round magazines because larger clips would not
28 fit in his duffel bag.” *See* Nicholas Nehamas & David Smiley, *Florida School Shooter’s AR-15 May Have Jammed, Saving Lives, Report Says*, Miami Herald (Feb. 27, 2018, 7:25 PM),
<https://hrlld.us/2qDTLGc>.

1 When criminals use LCMs in violent crimes and shootings, they generally fire more shots
 2 and cause more injuries.²³ For example, a study of Milwaukee homicides found that those killed
 3 with guns containing LCMs had on average one additional gunshot injury, and the Maryland
 4 medical examiner's office reported that the number of cadavers with ten or more bullets more
 5 than doubled between 2006 and 2016. *See, e.g.,* Jeffrey Roth & Christopher Koper, *Impact*
 6 *Evaluation of the Public Safety and Recreational Firearms Use Protection Act of 1994: Final*
 7 *Report*, Urban Institute, (1997), at <http://urbn.is/2wQKkrA>; Justin George, *Shoot to Kill: Why*
 8 *Baltimore is One of The Most Lethal Cities in America*, Baltimore Sun (Sept. 30, 2016),
 9 <https://bsun.md/2da4nci>. Shootings with more injuries invariably lead to more deaths. One
 10 study found that gunshot victims shot twice are 60% more likely to die than those shot once. *See*
 11 *Koper, An Updated Assessment of the Federal Assault Weapons Ban: Impacts on Gun Markets*
 12 *and Gun Violence, 1994-2003, supra* note 23, at 87; *see also* Daniel W. Webster et al.,
 13 *Epidemiologic changes in gunshot wounds in Washington, D.C. 1983-1990*, 127 *Archives of*
 14 *Surgery* 694 (1992) (finding that the fatality rate for multiple chest wounds is 61% higher than
 15 the fatality rate for a single chest wound). This finding is supported by the correlation between
 16 the prevalence of LCMs and increases in lethal shootings reported in several American cities.
 17 *See* Rachael Rettner, *Gunshot Wounds Are Getting Deadlier, One Hospital Finds*,
 18 *LiveScience.com*, June 14, 2016, <https://bit.ly/2HBnMO9> (speculating that that increases in
 19 gunshot death rates could be connected to the use of LCMs).²⁴

20 A California study also indicates that assault pistols equipped with LCMs are more likely
 21 to be purchased by individuals with a criminal background. *See* Garen J. Wintemute et al.,
 22 *Criminal Activity and Assault-Type Handguns: A Study of Young Adults*, 32 *Annals Emer. Med.*
 23 44 (1998), <http://bit.ly/2ymFodM> (finding assault pistols were selected by 2% of purchasers with

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 25 ²³ Christopher Koper, Daniel Woods & Jeffrey Roth, *An Updated Assessment of the Federal*
 26 *Assault Weapons Ban: Impacts on Gun Markets and Gun Violence, 1994-2003*, National Institute
 27 of Justice (2004), <http://bit.ly/2vBTGTX> (finding that violent crimes resulting in gunshot injuries
 are up to 50% more likely to have been committed with LCMs and that shootings resulting in
 injuries are nearly 26% more likely to have involved LCMs).

28 ²⁴*See also* George, *supra* p. 17 (attributing increased shooting lethality, in part, to increasingly
 lethal tactics enabled by LCMs).

1 no criminal record, 6.5% of purchasers with a prior gun charge, and 10% of purchasers with two
2 or more previous violent felonies). LCMs also pose a threat to California’s law enforcement. A
3 recent analysis found that “LCM weapons overall account for 41% of the guns used to kill
4 officers.” See Koper, *Criminal Use of Assault Weapons and High-Capacity Semiautomatic*
5 *Firearms: an Updated Examination of Local and National Sources*, supra p. 16, at 7.

6 In sum, the Mayors’ Survey suggests that mass shootings involving LCMs are
7 substantially more dangerous than those in which LCMs are not involved. This is further
8 supported by research showing that LCMs increase the harms of gun crime, even apart from the
9 mass shooting context. Everytown’s research, along with the other support that the Defendant
10 has introduced into the record, supports a finding that Proposition 63 is appropriately tailored to
11 address the significant public safety threat presented by LCMs and that Proposition 63 therefore
12 is constitutional.

13 **CONCLUSION**

14 For the foregoing reasons, Everytown respectfully requests that the Court deny Plaintiffs’
15 Motion for Summary Judgment.

16 Dated: April 16, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

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