

CALIFORNIA LAW REVISION COMMISSION

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Nonsubstantive Reorganization of the Deadly Weapon Statutes

Request for Public Comment

The California Law Revision Commission seeks public comment on its tentative recommendation proposing a nonsubstantive reorganization of the deadly weapon statutes (Penal Code §§ 12000-12809).

The Governor and other persons have expressed concern that the laws governing control of deadly weapons are not readily understandable. In response to these concerns, the Legislature directed the Law Revision Commission to study those laws and prepare a report containing recommended legislation by July 1, 2009. The general purpose of the study is to improve the organization and accessibility of the deadly weapons statutes, without making any change to criminal liability under those statutes.

Over a two-year period, the Commission prepared a tentative recommendation proposing to reorganize the deadly weapon statutes to make them more user-friendly. The Commission took extreme care to ensure that the proposed reorganization would not cause any substantive change in the law.

The Commission invites public review and comment on its proposal. Comments can be submitted in any format and by whatever means of delivery is most convenient for the person or organization submitting comments.

The Commission recognizes that the tentative recommendation is lengthy and will be time-consuming to review. Comments of any nature are encouraged: A single sentence evaluation of the concept of the proposed reform, a detailed section-by-section analysis of the proposed legislation, or any other expression of views on the tentative recommendation. It is just as important to provide positive comments as negative comments.

The 436-page tentative recommendation is available from the California Law Revision Commission, 4000 Middlefield Road, Room D-1, Palo Alto, CA 94303-4739. The tentative recommendation is also available on the Commission's website, by following the "deadly weapons" link on the homepage (www.clrc.ca.gov).

A separate tentative recommendation, consisting of conforming revisions, is also available for review and comment.

The Commission often substantially revises its recommendations as a result of public comment. To receive timely consideration, comments should be submitted by **May 1, 2009**.