

Canadian Labour Congress



Keep Our Communities Safe!

A backbench Conservative Member of Parliament's plan to dismantle the registration of rifles and shotguns in Canada became closer to reality on November 4.

That's when 20 opposition MPs joined with the entire government caucus to send Bill C-391 (which would change the Criminal Code and repeal the long gun registry) to a committee for study before being brought back for a final vote. It was a big setback for public safety.

Heading into the final steps of the law-making process with a 27-vote lead gives C-391 a good chance of succeeding. If that happens, registration of rifles and shotguns would stop and the government would delete the nearly 8 million firearms records used today by police and other law enforcement officials.

Police use those records to keep themselves and our communities safe. Statistics show that gun registry information is accessed as often as 10,000 times a day. Statistics also show a 50% drop in gun-related spousal homicides since records started being kept. We can still turn things around.

People who think it's a good idea to keep track of weapons like rifles and shotguns for the sake of public safety need to have their voices heard. That's the only way to get at least 14 MPs to change their minds about C-391 and stop it from happening.

If your MP is a Conservative, your voice is especially important. That's because the Conservative Party has a history of strong support for public safety and the police. It doesn't make sense that so many Conservative MPs who represent communities where the police say they need the gun registry, and where public support for keeping track of guns remains strong, voted in favour of C-391. They clearly need to hear more about this from the people they represent.

Which is why we're asking for your help today. We need to convince a few MPs to change their minds about C-391, and vote NO when it returns to the House of Commons for final approval.

You can help us make this happen.

- Forward this email to 20 of your friends. Ask them to do the same
- Join our [Facebook page](#).
- Send a [post card to the Prime Minister](#) about how gun control is an important part of any plan to reduce violence against women.
- [Click here](#) to find out how to call, fax, e-mail or go and visit your local MP. Tell them the law is working. Tell them that gun-related spousal homicide is down 50% since the gun registry was started. Tell them to keep our communities safe. Tell them to vote against C-391 (*if you really want to get their attention, add that you won't vote for anyone who votes in favour of C-391 come the next election*).

We know there are more Canadians who support having rifles and shotguns registered for public safety than who want to see this important policing tool dismantled and all of its records destroyed. That's why it's still possible to turn things around and win this one for public safety.

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Posted: Friday, 27 November 2009

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