

# **U.S Congressman Dr. Ron Paul**

## **The Presidential candidate who most strongly supports the Second Amendment**

**Ron Paul on the Assault Weapons Ban:**

**The law in question bans many very ordinary types of rifles and ammunition, while limiting magazine capacity for both rifles and pistols that are still legal. Many of the vilified “assault rifles” outlawed by the ban are in fact sporting rifles that are no longer available to hunters and outdoorsmen. Of course true military-style automatic rifles remain widely available to criminals on the black market. So practically speaking, the assault weapons ban does nothing to make us safer.**

**More importantly, however, the debate about certain types of weapons ignores the fundamental purpose of the Second amendment. The Second amendment is not about hunting deer or keeping a pistol in your nightstand. It is not about protecting oneself against common criminals. It is about preventing tyranny. The Founders knew that unarmed citizens would never be able to overthrow a tyrannical government as they did. They envisioned government as a servant, not a master, of the American people. The muskets they used against the British Army were the assault rifles of the time. It is practical, rather than alarmist, to understand that unarmed citizens cannot be secure in their freedoms. It’s convenient for gun banners to dismiss this argument by saying “That could never happen here, this is America”- but history shows that only vigilant people can keep government under control. By banning certain weapons today, we may plant the seeds for tyranny to flourish ten, thirty, or fifty years from now.**

**Tortured interpretations of the Second amendment cannot change the fact that both the letter of the amendment itself and the legislative history conclusively show that the Founders intended ordinary citizens to be armed. The notion that the Second amendment confers rights only upon organized state-run militias is preposterous; the amendment is meaningless unless it protects the gun rights of individuals. Georgetown University professor Robert Levy recently offered this simple explanation:**

**“Suppose the Second amendment said ‘A well-educated electorate being necessary for self-governance in a free state, the right of the people to keep and read books shall not be infringed.’ Is there anyone who would suggest that means only registered voters have a right to read?”**

# But wait, there's more!

Dr. Paul Proposed H.R. 1096 on February 15, 2007

“To restore the second amendment rights of all Americans”

Read the Full Bill Text

<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/billtext.xpd?bill=h110-1096>

## What are they saying?

*Larry Pratt , Executive Director of GOA , on Ron Paul*

Ron Paul has represented areas near Houston, Texas for nearly 20 years in the U.S. House of Representatives. He has the reputation of the paramount defender of the Constitution and seeks to follow it in casting every one of his votes.

Ron Paul has been a leader in the fight to defend and restore the Second Amendment. He has sponsored legislation to repeal the following:

- the Brady law;
- the requirement to lock up your safety (guns);
- the law permitting the US to be part of the UN (which, among other attacks on American freedoms, seeks to ban privately transferred firearms);
- participation in UNESCO -- which has been used to dumb down US education standards;
- the federal prohibition on importation of guns on a sporting basis test;
- federal prohibitions on any pilot wishing to carry a handgun to and in his cockpit; and,
- the so-called "assault weapons" ban (prior to its sunseting in 2004)

Paul also has sponsored legislation requiring states to treat the concealed carry permit of one state the same as they do that state's driver's license.

Paul has viewed his opposition to a national ID card as a protection for gun owners. A national ID card would most likely identify the bearer as a gun owner, among other things of interest to government officials.

# *How do others match up?*

Rudy Giuliani - In 1993, before even being sworn in as mayor, Giuliani met with then-President Clinton at the White House to discuss *national* gun registration. Giuliani supported the Brady bill, which had recently passed, but argued that it didn't go far enough.

- Gun Owners of America

Mitt Romney - "We do have tough gun laws in Massachusetts; I support them, I won't chip away at them; I believe they protect us and provide for our safety." - Himself

Fred Thompson - He is in his own words "against gun control, generally." And his voting record shows that to be true, generally. When he voted anti-gun, it was usually to expand federal authority. This is unfortunately consistent with his being a "law and order conservative" (pardon the pun). - Gun Owners of America

While Fred Thompson's approach seems reasonable initially, with his tendency to increase federal power will only increase the damage an anti-gun person may do if they come to power.

## Links of Interest

- Ron Paul on Gun Control: <http://www.lewrockwell.com/paul/paul330.html>
- Ron Paul Library: <http://www.ronpaullibrary.org/topic.php?id=17>
- Video short of Ron Paul: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2QUJxzWsQY>
- Crime in broad daylight:  
[http://paul08.policlicks.com/item/M6GNQYQ7PKP8132S/theater#theater\\_title](http://paul08.policlicks.com/item/M6GNQYQ7PKP8132S/theater#theater_title)