Recommendation 5

In view of the testimony provided by the RCMP's firearms expert and others, it is recommended that no restrictions be placed on magazine capacity.

B) Devices

Under Bill C-80, order-in-council powers would have been amended to extend those powers to "devices", a term which has been very loosely defined as not being complete weapons. The difficulties with the provision lie with the lack of a definition and it is therefore feared that the extended powers would be used to prohibit any firearm not deemed to be appropriate by the Minister of Justice.

By placing firearms which have been designed in the automatic mode and converted to fire in the semi-automatic mode in the prohibited category, and military firearms in the restricted category and by giving the Canadian Advisory Council on Firearms the mandate to recommend restriction or prohibition of those firearms deemed inappropriate to the overall well-being of Canadians, the extension of the order-in-council powers to include "devices" in the prohibited weapons definition in the Criminal Code becomes unnecessary.

Recommendation 6

It is recommended that the Minister of Justice abandon her intentions to include the term "devices" in the definition of "prohibited weapon" in section 84(1) of the Criminal Code.

Conclusion

I firmly believe that these 6 (six) recommendations, coupled with the recommendations I support contained in the Special Committee's report will form the basis for legislation aimed at protecting the safety of Canadians while not restricting the legitimate use of firearms. A new piece of legislation encompassing these recommendations will give all Canadians effective and manageable firearms laws.

Robert D. Nault, MP Kenora-Rainy River