



DICK'S Sporting Goods, Inc., 345 Court Street, Coraopolis, PA 15108

To: Chairman Floyd Prozanski
Senate Committee on Judiciary
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: DICK'S Sporting Goods, Inc. support for permitting a minimum age for firearm sales as part of Sections 1-3 of Proposed Amendments to Senate Bill 978

DICK'S Sporting Good, Inc. is the largest omni-channel full-line sporting goods retailer in the United States, and proudly sells sporting goods of all kinds to Oregonians. DICK'S and other Oregon retailers want the ability to adopt their own policies related to more restrictive sales of firearms and ammunition. They do not want to be compelled to sell guns to individuals under the age of 21.

In light of recent gun-related tragedies around the country, DICK'S made a responsible company-wide decision to raise the minimum age to purchase firearms, certain accessories, and ammunition at its stores to 21 years of age. This was the right decision for the company's culture. DICK'S wants the ability to enact its own policies related to the sale of firearms and ammunition to better protect children and increase public safety.

Businesses in Oregon have long been able to enforce age-based restrictions without violating the Oregon Public Accommodation Act. Examples include age limits on alcohol and marijuana sales, restrictions on minors' access to places where alcohol is served, and legally protected product and service price discounts for Oregonians over the age of 50. However, the sale of firearms is not currently included on the list of exemptions to Oregon Public Accommodation Act (ORS 659A.403), which has spurred lawsuits in the state against some retailers.

We believe Sections 1-3 of the Proposed Amendments to SB 978 make clear that private Oregon retailers are permitted (but not required) to set the minimum age of 21 for the purchase of firearms or ammunition. These Proposed Amendments would eliminate age discrimination claims against retailers that elect to enact the reasonable restriction of selling firearms and ammunition to those who are 21 years and older.

These Proposed Amendments provide private Oregon retailers with the ability to make a choice to take precautions against the sale of firearms, certain accessories, and ammunition to individuals under the age of 21 to better safeguard their schools and communities. It does not infringe on the right of local retailers to sell firearms to 18-20 year-olds, should they choose.

We ask that you support Sections 1-3 of the Proposed Amendments to SB 978.

Sincerely,

Edward W. Stack
Chairman & CEO