

Submitter: Paul Furnari
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2005

Members of the House Judiciary Committee-

While I understand the desire to do something-anything- about gun violence (except going after criminals), HB2005 represents the same old outdated gun control tactics that have already been deemed ineffective and, more importantly, unconstitutional in the post-Bruen landscape. While you may hear about increases in gun crimes purportedly committed with people wielding ghost guns (so called), recognize that the definition of unserialized firearms also includes those where the serial number has been obliterated; it has always been that way, and has not been deemed a special problem until ghost guns became a meme. The danger is significantly overstated- cops magically tracing a firearm after a crime is pretty uncommon outside of TV shows. Very rarely is a legitimately-acquired firearm used in a crime- multiple peer-reviewed studies have proven this. If you really wanted to make a difference and still vilify ghost guns, modify existing laws. Currently, felons in Oregon have a recidivism rate of over 57%, and the vast majority of gun crimes are committed by felons. Felon in possession is already a crime, but I recommend implementing sentencing enhancements to target whatever boogeyman du jour gun controllers want to focus on: felon in possession of a ghost gun? 10 years in jail instead of 5. Felon in possession of an assault weapon? 10 years in jail instead of 5. Felon in possession of Boba Fett's disintegrator? 10 years in jail instead of 5.

Law-abiding Americans making their own firearms for their own personal use has been a part of our history since before 1776, so it clearly meets historical precedent as outlined in the Bruen decision. Not only that, it's much harder to do than you think, and requires skill, specialized tools, and a wherewithal not commonly seen in criminals. The bill also addresses "undetectable" firearms, which are most definitely not a thing, highlighting just how inane this bill actually is.

Lastly- lest you think I'm some run of the mill gun nut, I want to tell you a little about myself. I'm a risk management professional with 25 years of experience, the last 10 of which have been in the public sector. I'm currently the lead administrator for a self-insured public entity; as such, I would think it's fair to say that I have a better than average understanding of how humans assess risk. We have this irrational fear of sharks, but still buy lottery tickets. In the same vein. criminalizing hobbyists has the same level of backasswards thinking. Even worse, there are no safe harbor provisions in the bill- frankly, in light of the fact that the bad guys will continue to ignore any gun law targeting the law abiding, that's flat out reprehensible.

Respectfully yours,
Paul Furnari