

Submitter: Judith Sanders
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB2005

Chair Kropf, Vice-chairs Andersen and Wallan, and Committee Members,

I am writing in support of HB 2005 and urge you to support it as well. Undetectable guns are a serious problem. Because they can't be traced and are easily and cheaply purchased as kits online, they are readily accessible to people for whom gun ownership is prohibited.

Brady (<https://www.bradyunited.org/fact-sheets/what-are-ghost-guns>) notes, "In 2020, Carlos A. Canino, the Special Agent in charge of the ATF Los Angeles Field Division, explained: 'Forty-one percent, so almost half our cases we're coming across are these ghost guns.' In 2017, three ghost guns were recovered by law enforcement in the District of Columbia. In 2018, it was 25 ghost guns. In 2019, 116 ghost guns were recovered, and at least three in connection with homicides. Just two months into 2020, 38 ghost guns had already been recovered, which suggests over 220 ghost guns will be recovered in crime in 2020. Ghost guns have been used in three separate mass shootings in California: Saugus (2019), Tehama County (2017), and Santa Monica (2013). Twelve people, including two teenagers, were killed in these shootings. Dozens more were shot and injured. The Tehama and Santa Monica shooters were prohibited from purchasing firearms, and the Saugus shooter was a minor who, by virtue of his age, was not legally able to possess any firearm under California law."

Oregon Attorney General Rosenblum writes (4-6-22), "Last month, federal agents and local police discovered a massive "ghost gun" manufacturing operation, seizing dozens of guns and gun components from a home in Salem. Officers also found approximately 200 counterfeit M30 oxycontin pills, believed to be made with fentanyl. The main suspect is a convicted felon — someone prohibited by law from possessing any firearms. Yet the discovery of his apparent arsenal is no surprise. That's because ghost guns — untraceable firearms built at home — represent a growing danger to all Oregonians." <https://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/2022/04/opinion-legislators-must-close-ghost-gun-loop-hole-in-gun-safety-laws.html>.

Clearly undetectable, untraceable guns are a serious threat to law abiding residents of Oregon. Prohibiting them will not interfere with Second Amendment rights since for people allowed to have guns, people can purchase such guns with serial numbers legally.

I urge you to support this bill and have Oregon join the 8 other states that have already banned such guns.

Sincerely,

Judi Sanders
Corvallis