



MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Nicole Morrissey O'Donnell

Testimony in Support of HB 2005 Ghost Guns

As a public safety leader, I understand firsthand the devastating impacts of gun violence and how getting dangerous and illegal firearms out of our neighborhoods supports safety for all. The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office advocates for a comprehensive approach to gun violence reduction encompassing:

- Prevention (suicide, accident)
- Dispossession (domestic violence, extreme risk protection orders)
- Interdiction (background check failures, firearm investigations)

Undetectable and unserialized firearms (aka "ghost guns") pose serious risks to public safety. When used to commit crimes, ghost guns complicate law enforcement investigations, because they lack a serial number and cannot be easily traced back to their owner. 3D printed ghost guns evade security measures, as they can be made without metal components and will pass through a metal detector without setting off the alarm. Ghost guns can also be obtained without a background check. Despite all of this, ghost guns are currently unregulated under Oregon law.

There is no single solution to the problem of gun violence, but there are steps we can take to make a positive difference. HB 2005, is one such step. By prohibiting undetectable firearms, we create accountability for those individuals looking to cause harm.

A recent report by Everytown for Gun Safety examined more than 100 federal prosecutions involving ghost guns, finding that ghost guns are connected to violent criminal enterprises, gun trafficking rings, and far-right extremists. This sample included more than 2,500 ghost guns, many of which were assault-style or machine guns.

HB 2005 allows law enforcement to intervene to remove these dangerous weapons from our streets while also providing an exception for antique firearms. This strikes a good balance between protecting responsible gun owner's rights and protecting community. I urge your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole Morrissey O'Donnell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicole Morrissey O'Donnell

Sheriff