

Submitter: Suzanne Pflaum  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: HB2005

My name is Suzanne Pflaum. I am a mother of a toddler, concerned citizen in North Portland, and a volunteer with Moms Demand Action, part of Everytown for Gun Safety.

I grew up hearing gun-fire from my bedroom and assuming some day that would be a distant memory. Instead of improving our safety in the last 40 years, I now have a 2 year old daughter who lives in a world where anyone can manufacture a gun in their home and commit a violent crime, anywhere, at any time, without a background check, registration, or permit.

I am writing to encourage you to support HB 2005. This bill will help save lives by prohibiting undetectable, untraceable Ghost Guns, which present a serious threat to public safety in Oregon.

Under current Oregon law, a person with a dangerous history can easily access everything they need to assemble a gun at home, with no background check and no questions asked. People with dangerous histories, who cannot legally purchase firearms, can access untraceable guns, including all-plastic guns that can be carried through metal detectors and other security devices.

Ghost guns and undetectable firearms are – by definition – always acquired without a background check. This undermines our law enforcement's ability to be effective. Because Ghost Guns have no serial numbers, it is impossible for law enforcement to effectively trace these firearms when they are used to commit crimes. When law enforcement officers recover unserialized—and therefore untraceable—guns at crime scenes, their criminal investigations are stymied before they even start.

I also support other gun violence prevention legislation to raise the minimum age for purchasing semi-automatic assault rifles to 21 and securing public spaces from gun violence. I urge you to join me and support these reasonable common sense actions that will move us in the right direction.

Thank you Chair Knopf and members of the House Judiciary Committee for reading my testimony. Please encourage your colleagues to advance these bills out of committee.

Suzanne Pflaum  
Volunteer, Moms Demand Action