

March 14, 2025

TO: House Committee On Judiciary FROM: Ali King, Our Children Oregon SUBJECT: Support for HB 3076

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen and Wallan, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Ali King and I am the Policy and Advocacy Director for Our Children Oregon (OCO), a statewide organization that champions equitable policies and opportunities for every child by leveraging data and research. The Children's Agenda, convened annually by OCO, brings together more than 135 organizations statewide to create a holistic legislative agenda dedicated to improving the wellbeing of Oregon's children, youth, and families.

As a coalition of child and family advocates, health care workers, educators, administrators, parents, and policy experts, we have seen firsthand the devastating impact of gun violence on Oregon's children.

Oregon has experienced a 172% increase in firearm homicides over the past decade, with thousands of illegal firearms flooding our communities. Compared to states with stronger regulations, like Washington and California, Oregon's current system leaves significant vulnerabilities. In order to protect Oregonians, Oregon must implement a state gun dealer licensing program with annual reporting requirements, mandatory inventory tracking, required security measures, employee training to prevent illegal sales, as well as regular state inspections.

States with robust gun dealer oversight have seen a 64% reduction in gun trafficking, a 36% decrease in gun homicide rates, and a 50% reduction in theft from dealers.

We appreciate the work you do for our state and we urge you to protect the well-being of future generations of Oregonians by supporting HB 3076 in order to implement comprehensive state licensing and a gun dealer code of conduct.

Sincerely, Mi King Ali King, Policy and Advocacy Director, Our Children Oregon View the <u>2025 Children's Agenda</u>