

March 16, 2025

Dear Oregon Legislators,

Please support HB 3076. In a recent OPB article, I learned that

“The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives aim to inspect every gun dealer in the US every three years. But records show that in 2022 and 2023, the agency inspected just 31 and 34 of Oregon’s roughly 2,000 firearms dealers – less than 2%.” (March 3, 2025)

I am a retired nurse, and I grew up in a family of gun owners. My father kept a handgun at his bedside and my extended family were all hunters. It was common to have either a locked gun cabinet in the dining room, or unlocked guns sitting on high shelves in both indoor and outdoor spaces. I have friends who are hunters and proudly share their game meat with our family. I support this use of guns. I support the safe and appropriate use of firearms.

I also grew up with people in my family with mental illness. My . During one of my sibling’s psychotic breaks, I traveled home to help my elderly grandmother and parents make decisions about the guns they had in their respective houses to insure their safety, and others, during a time of crisis. Police were involved.

I strongly believe that gun owners need to be responsible in how they attain guns, have appropriate training and storage of guns. Embedded in this belief is that gun dealers must be held accountable to safe business practices.

Our state needs to significantly improve basic business practices in selling firearms, such as completing background checks, and monitoring gun dealer business practices, such as the licensing, inventory storage, and inspections.

I strongly support HB3076: State Gun Dealer Licensing and I ask that you support this.

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