

Submitter: Ken Wharton
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076
Nico Martinez Testimony in Opposition to HB 3076

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I am writing today to voice my strong opposition to House Bill 3076, which directs the Department of Justice to study the establishment of a state gun dealer licensing program. This bill is yet another attempt to chip away at our Second Amendment rights, under the guise of “studying” gun sales. However, we know exactly where this leads—more government regulation, more barriers to legal gun ownership, and an eventual push toward restrictive policies that make it harder for law-abiding citizens to exercise their constitutional rights.

HB 3076 is a Gateway to More Gun Control

The intent behind this bill is clear: to create a state-controlled gun dealer licensing system that would allow future legislators to limit, restrict, and regulate firearm sales beyond what is already federally required. This is not about safety; this is about control. The federal government already has extensive regulations on gun dealers, including background checks, ATF licensing requirements, and strict compliance laws. Adding another layer of state bureaucracy is redundant, unnecessary, and an unconstitutional overreach.

An Attack on Law-Abiding Citizens, Not Criminals

Like many recent gun control measures, HB 3076 targets responsible gun owners and dealers while doing nothing to stop criminals. Oregon has already seen the passage of Measure 114, a deeply flawed and unconstitutional law that imposed magazine bans and permit-to-purchase requirements, restricting the rights of law-abiding citizens while criminals continue to ignore the law.

By adding unnecessary licensing requirements, HB 3076 could force small, family-run firearm dealers out of business, leaving Oregonians with fewer options to legally purchase firearms. This does nothing to reduce crime—it only makes it harder for responsible citizens to protect themselves and their families.

A Direct Violation of the Second Amendment

The Second Amendment clearly states that the right to keep and bear arms “shall not

be infringed.” Yet, time and time again, we see efforts like HB 3076 attempting to erode that right through excessive regulations and bureaucratic red tape. The government should not have the power to decide who can and cannot sell firearms beyond the already rigorous federal standards in place.

This bill is not about public safety—it’s about creating a framework for future gun restrictions. If we allow this to pass, what’s next? A state registry of all gun owners? More taxes and fees on firearms? Oregon lawmakers have already pushed unconstitutional gun control measures—enough is enough.

Conclusion: Stand Against HB 3076

I urge you to reject HB 3076 and any future legislation that seeks to undermine our Second Amendment rights. Instead of targeting responsible gun owners and businesses, lawmakers should focus on enforcing existing laws, addressing mental health issues, and cracking down on criminals who obtain guns illegally.

HB 3076 is a slippery slope toward more restrictions, more control, and fewer rights for Oregonians. Do not let this bill pass. Stand up for our freedoms, our Constitution, and the right of every Oregonian to protect themselves and their families.

Respectfully,

Ken Wharton
Klamath Falls