

Submitter: Tony Bush
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076
Tony Bush
in Opposition to HB 3076**

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 3076, which proposes that the Department of Justice study the potential establishment of a state gun dealer licensing program. This bill is just another attempt to undermine our Second Amendment rights under the pretense of studying gun sales. However, it is clear to us where this leads—more governmental restrictions, additional obstacles for lawful gun ownership, and a pathway toward policies that make it more difficult for citizens to exercise their constitutional rights.

****HB 3076 Opens the Door to Increased Gun Control****

The aim of this bill is unmistakable: to create a state-run licensing system for gun dealers, opening the door for future legislation to impose further restrictions on gun sales that go beyond the current federal requirements. This isn't about public safety; it's about control. We already have strict federal regulations in place for gun dealers, including background checks, ATF licensing, and other compliance rules. Introducing another layer of state oversight is redundant, unnecessary, and infringes upon our constitutional rights.

****Targeting Law-Abiding Citizens, Not Criminals****

Much like other recent gun control initiatives, HB 3076 primarily targets responsible gun owners and licensed dealers while doing little to curb criminal activity. Oregon has already witnessed the passing of Measure 114, which introduced unconstitutional restrictions such as magazine bans and permit-to-purchase requirements, further restricting the rights of law-abiding citizens while criminals continue to act with impunity.

The additional licensing requirements in HB 3076 could force small, family-owned gun shops out of business, reducing access for Oregonians who wish to legally purchase firearms. This measure does nothing to prevent crime—it only makes it more difficult for responsible citizens to protect themselves and their families.

****A Direct Challenge to the Second Amendment****

The Second Amendment clearly affirms that the right to keep and bear arms "shall not be infringed." Unfortunately, bills like HB 3076 consistently attempt to erode this fundamental right with excessive regulations and red tape. The government should not have the authority to decide who can sell firearms, especially when federal law already enforces stringent requirements.

This bill is not a genuine attempt to improve public safety—it is a first step in laying the groundwork for future restrictions on gun ownership. If HB 3076 is allowed to pass, what's next? A state-run registry of all firearm owners? Increased taxes on guns and ammunition? Oregon lawmakers have already pushed unconstitutional measures in the past—this trend must stop now.

****Conclusion: Reject HB 3076****

I urge you to vote against HB 3076, as well as any other legislation that seeks to undermine our Second Amendment rights. Instead of continuing to target responsible gun owners and businesses, lawmakers should focus on enforcing existing laws, addressing mental health issues, and cracking down on criminals who acquire firearms illegally.

HB 3076 is a dangerous step toward more restrictions and less freedom for Oregonians. Do not allow this bill to pass. Stand up for our constitutional rights and the ability of every Oregonian to defend themselves and their families.

Sincerely,
Tony Bush
Clackamas County