



Chair Kropf, Vice-Chair Chotzen, Vice-Chair Wallen, and committee members,

The Oregon chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) strongly supports HB 3076 and urges the passage of this bill. While this bill is only a first step in state licensing of gun dealers, it is an important step.

One of NOW's key priorities is **Ending Violence Against Women**. Guns play a highly significant role in that violence. More than 50 percent of homicides of women perpetrated by an intimate partner involved the use of a gun. In addition, "More than 11,000 women in the United States were killed with a gun between 2015 and 2019, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention." [Marissa Edmund, Report--Guns and Violence Against Women, Jan 5, 2022.](#)

It isn't just that guns are used to kill women. Guns are used to perpetrate many kinds of violence. Edmund goes on to say, "The impact of gun violence against women goes beyond fatal encounters. A 2016 study found that nearly 1 million women alive at that time had been shot by an intimate partner, and 4.5 million women had been threatened with a firearm. Firearms have long been used as a tool of power and control to instill fear and inflict abuse on women—with women of color, people in the LGBTQ community, and women with disabilities being disproportionately affected." [Marissa Edmund, Report--Guns and Violence Against Women, Jan 5, 2022.](#)

Because guns are the primary weapon for inflicting violence against women, we must make sure that our laws keep guns away from people who are legally prohibited from having them. State gun licensing is an important tool for doing that. Dealers can be the key factor here. Although most guns are originally sold through federally licensed gun dealers, federal licensing requirements are only loosely enforced ([Giffords Law Center: to Prevent Gun Violence, 2025](#)) and are likely to see even less enforcement under Kash Patel's leadership of the ATF ([Champe Barton, What Kash Patel's Leadership could mean for the AFT, The Trace, Feb 28, 2025](#)). Dealers, following the law, have the power to keep guns from people who are legally prohibited from having them.

Seventeen states and the District of Columbia already require state-issued licenses for gun dealers ([Giffords Law Center: to Prevent Gun Violence, 2025](#)). This allows states to enforce their gun regulations and to prohibit the sale of guns through unscrupulous dealers. Oregon should study and establish a state gun licensing program.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Sanders
Oregon NOW Legislative Task Force
Oregon National Organization for Women