

Submitter: David Shaw

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076

This testimony is submitted by David Shaw, PhD (retired psychologist) and Patricia Chandler, LPC (retired counselor). We were mental health first responders at Thurston High School in Springfield on May 21, 1998, two hours after the shooting in which two students were killed and 27 were injured. We will never forget doing critical incident debriefing with surviving students. As professionals with many years of experience specializing in the treatment of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, we know a significant portion of those survivors still suffer from the impact of this shooting. We have advocated for gun safety laws since our experience at Thurston. Common sense gun safety laws can reduce the frequency of gun violence such as the shooting at Thurston and suicide deaths with guns.

In particular HB 3076 Firearm Dealer Licensing and Enforcement would provide a first line of defense against (1) illegal gun sales ( without background check, to prohibited persons and straw purchases), (2) insecure inventories and (3) inadequate records (to aid criminal investigations). Gun dealers are among the least regulated businesses in Oregon. Passage of HB 3076 would help in reducing gun violence like the Thurston shooting.

RespectfullySubmitted,

David Shaw, PhD and Patricia Chandler, LPC