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On Behalf Of:

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Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076

It's time for Oregon to join the many states that have implemented state license requirements for gun dealers. Data shows that firearm violence decreases when common sense gun laws are in place. Firearms dealers are the first line of defense in ensuring guns don't fall into the wrong hands, but they are one of the least-regulated businesses in our state. As reported by OPB, "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%." Oregon may not have the money to inspect every dealer, but we should follow the lead of other states and create a licensing and inspection process. A firearm dealer licensing program would ensure dealers are taking the necessary steps to prevent gun trafficking and theft, and it would ensure they receive adequate training to identify warning signs before selling firearms to someone with bad intentions.