

Submitter: Luke Cuenco
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076

Dear Honorable Members of the Oregon Legislative Assembly,

My name is Luke Cuenco, a published writer in the firearms community with work featured in The Firearm Blog, TFBTV, OutdoorHub, and AllOutdoor, and a passionate advocate for the rights of armed Oregonians. I am writing to respectfully oppose House Bill 3076, which directs the Department of Justice to study the establishment of a state gun dealer licensing program. While I appreciate the intent to explore safety measures, my experience and expertise tell me this bill misdirects resources, threatens the freedoms of law-abiding Oregonians, and lacks a clear purpose.

Oregon's firearms community is already governed by robust federal oversight from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Oregon State Police. As a Federal Firearms License (FFL) holder myself, I comply with rigorous background checks, meticulous record-keeping, and regular inspections. Adding a state-level licensing program would duplicate these efforts, piling unnecessary costs and bureaucracy onto small businesses already strained by existing regulations. Far from being a problem, these dealers—myself included—serve as responsible gatekeepers, preventing illegal firearms ownership while supporting our communities. We don't need more convoluted rules.

Furthermore, HB 3076's mandate for a study, due by December 31, 2026, offers no evidence of flaws in the current system. Without data justifying this effort, it feels like a solution chasing a problem. Worse, the funds earmarked for this study could address far more pressing challenges Oregonians face daily: housing affordability and education. With skyrocketing rents and home prices driving families out of our neighborhoods, and schools struggling to equip students with essential resources, these are the crises begging for action. Redirecting resources to affordable housing or classroom funding would deliver real benefits—unlike a redundant licensing review that would further burden our overworked, understaffed State Police and the FFLs that work closely with them.

As an advocate for armed Oregonians, I also fear this study lays the groundwork for broader restrictions on our Second Amendment rights. Through my writing, I've highlighted how deeply our community values these freedoms—not just for sport or self-defense, but as a cornerstone of liberty and an integral thread in Oregon's cultural fabric. HB 3076 risks alienating law-abiding citizens and dealers like me while failing to deter illegal activity.

I urge you to reject House Bill 3076 and prioritize Oregon's limited resources on proven solutions—like improving housing affordability and education—that genuinely strengthen our state and its people. As a lifelong Oregonian, I thank you for considering my testimony, shaped by years of writing, advocacy, and love for this great and beautiful state.

Sincerely,

Luke Cuenco