

Submitter: Kris McManus
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076

Dear Sir's amd Madam's

I am writing to express my opposition to Oregon House Bill 3076, which mandates the Department of Justice (DOJ) to study the establishment of a state gun dealer licensing program. While the intent to address illegal firearms and associated violent crimes is commendable, I have several concerns regarding this bill:

1. Resource Allocation and Effectiveness: Allocating state resources to study a new licensing program may not be the most effective use of taxpayer funds. Existing federal and state regulations already govern firearm sales, and enhancing enforcement of these laws could be a more efficient approach to combating illegal firearms.
2. Potential Impact on Law-Abiding Citizens: Introducing additional licensing requirements could disproportionately affect law-abiding gun owners and dealers. Such measures might lead to increased administrative burdens and costs, potentially infringing upon the rights of responsible firearm enthusiasts.
3. Questionable Impact on Illegal Firearms Trafficking: There is limited evidence to suggest that establishing a state-level licensing program would significantly reduce the flow of illegal firearms. Criminals are unlikely to comply with licensing requirements, and resources might be better spent on targeted enforcement strategies.
4. Existing Legislative Framework: Oregon has previously addressed related issues through legislation such as HB 3076 in 2019, which established a community benefit minimum spending floor program for hospitals . This indicates that the legislative process has already engaged with aspects of public safety funding, and further studies may be redundant.
5. Constitutional Considerations: There are concerns that HB 3076 may not align with the Oregon Constitution, Oregon Revised Statutes, and Senate Rules. Legal experts suggest that the bill could face constitutional challenges if enacted .

In light of these concerns, I respectfully urge you to oppose HB 3076. Instead, I advocate for a comprehensive review of existing firearm regulations and a focus on enhancing enforcement of current laws to effectively address illegal firearms and related violence without imposing additional burdens on responsible citizens.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Kris McManus