

Submitter: Jennifer Langston  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076

Hello, my name is Jennifer Langston.

I am a Moms Demand Action Volunteer in support of HB3076 and a two-time survivor of preventable gun violence.

In Portland,OR- 2006- felons broke into my home and held me at gunpoint. To this day I wonder how those felons got their hands on guns that injured my roommate and left me feeling unsafe everywhere.

From 2017-2021, more than 26,000 firearms were recovered at crime scenes in Oregon, and more than 55% of those weapons were purchased from licensed firearms dealers.

On April 1st 2014, I was shot in the chest, by my boyfriend, while living in Missouri. After almost losing my life, I needed to understand how this happened. My boyfriend had said he couldn't own firearms because of his mental health hospitalizations for suicidal tendencies and self harm. We discussed and decided against having guns in our home. But a firearm did become part of our household, without my knowledge.

To this day I am perplexed on how my boyfriend was able to purchase a .38 revolver the same day, and then hold me captive in our home for more than 72 hours.

Threatening to kill me and then himself.

Holding the gun to his temple and then pointing the gun at me, over and over again. He fired the .38 firearm at my heart, when I finally got the courage to escape. Turning to run saved my life. The bullet missed my spine and heart.

I went to the pawn shop that sold my boyfriend the handgun, to inquire about the background check application that is used to buy a firearm. The pawn shop employee declined to show or give an application to me.

I don't want my gun violence experience repeated in Oregon. The man who shot me in Missouri was released back to Oregon, 6 years into his 12 year sentence. He will be off parole within the year, with no one monitoring if he is on his medication.

Do we have the safety rails in place to prevent him from acquiring another gun?

Who is making sure firearm dealers are not complicit in crimes?

Who is monitoring firearm dealers to help prevent gun violence?

Like other states in the region, Oregon should create a state firearm dealer licensing

and inspection program, to ensure dealers are securing their inventory against theft, maintaining sales records to aid in investigating crimes, and training their employees to look for signs of straw purchasing.

Thank you for your time and consideration for support of HB3076.