

Testimony on HB 3076 Amendment

03-20-25

Matt Little, Ducks Unlimited

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Matt Little and I am Ducks Unlimited's Policy Director for Oregon and the Western Region. Ducks Unlimited is North America's primary organization dedicated to wetlands and waterfowl conservation, with over 6,000 members in Oregon and more than 131,000 acres of habitat locally conserved. We also believe strongly in hunter and firearms safety.

We were given little time to review today's amendment, but since we have been through this same legislation in Washington we would like to outline our two main concerns and ask for your help in addressing both issues:

1. We believe that safety and security is important, but this amendment may be too costly for the majority of establishments that sell or repair hunting families' firearms. In the Washington legislation, for example, the requirements surrounding excessive HD video surveillance alone would have cost one small shop tens of thousands of dollars to implement. If the only FFLs that survive these requirements are Cabela's and Sportsman's Warehouse, this bill will be directly reducing the number of new hunters and firearms owners and, in turn, this directly reduces conservation funding through the Pittman-Robertson Act tax and hunting license and tag fees. Combined, these represent the largest sources of wildlife conservation funding in Oregon through ODFW. Please make sure that any new security requirements are feasible and affordable.
2. Nonprofit conservation organizations like ours depend on funding raised at private banquets throughout Oregon to fund a large portion of our conservation work. For Ducks Unlimited, we use these funds to restore and improve wetlands for the benefits of wildlife and our communities. Since many of our members come from families that hunt, our banquets offer many hunting equipment items for auction including

firearms – mostly hunting shotguns. These events are safe and have FFL representatives on location to ensure the safe and legal transfer of firearms. However, we have concerns that the limits to dealers and infrequent sellers in this proposed bill may apply to DU and our banquet system. Please work with us to make sure that these limitations do not apply to nonprofit fundraising events.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on these important conservation issues.