

Submitter: Sean Bernhardt  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076

To the Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 3076, which proposes the establishment of a state gun dealer licensing program in Oregon. While I acknowledge the importance of ensuring public safety, this bill presents several concerns that could unfairly penalize firearm dealers and infringe upon citizens' Second Amendment rights.

I believe HB 3076 creates Unnecessary Redundancy's and Burden's on Dealers, as currently firearm dealers in Oregon are required to obtain a Federal Firearms License (FFL) from the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), which involves rigorous background checks, compliance with federal regulations, and regular audits. Implementing a state-level licensing program would be redundant, imposing additional administrative and financial burdens on law-abiding dealers without clear evidence that it would enhance public safety.

By introducing more stringent regulations on firearm dealers, HB 3076 could inadvertently limit the accessibility of firearms to law-abiding citizens. Increased operational costs and bureaucratic hurdles may force smaller dealers to close their businesses, reducing the availability of firearms for self-defense, hunting, and sporting purposes. This reduction in access could be viewed as an infringement on the constitutional right to bear arms, as protected by the Second Amendment. Statistically there is a lack of conclusive evidence suggesting that additional state-level licensing would effectively reduce crime rates or prevent firearms from falling into the wrong hands. Without data to support the efficacy of such measures, implementing HB 3076 could result in unnecessary complications for dealers and consumers alike, without achieving the desired improvements in public safety.

In light of these concerns, I respectfully urge you to oppose HB 3076. Instead, I recommend focusing on enforcing existing federal regulations and addressing the root causes of gun violence through comprehensive community programs and mental health initiatives. Penalizing responsible firearm dealers and restricting citizens' rights is not the solution to enhancing public safety.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Sean Bernhardt