

Submitter: Rev. Dr. W. Mark Knutson  
On Behalf Of: Lift Every Voice Oregon  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076

To the Chair and Members of the House Judiciary Committee thank you for your service on behalf of all Oregonians. You are in our daily prayers. I would have loved to have been with you this week to testify in support of HB 3076 but funerals and other pastoral duties as Senior Pastor of Augustana Lutheran Church in Portland would not allow me to. As you know Augustana is home of Lift Every Voice Oregon with over 3000 volunteers in every county and the birth place of State Law Measure 114. This Session the Oregon Legislature has the opportunity to pass HB 3076 which will add to the safety of every Oregonian in rural, suburban and urban areas throughout Oregon. As you also know in the past five years over 27,000 guns were recovered in Oregon half of which moved through some of the gun dealers in Oregon. Consider how many are out there today that have not been recovered. The possession of these guns so often ruin the lives of young Oregonians in every county. HB 3076 gets right to the crux of this issue. Every profession requires standards and licensing and most welcome this since it protects all in that business and speaks to their integrity. Every Oregonian must license their automobile or motorcycle very two years. Yer there is no standard for gun dealers, in fact as you also know only 34 out of 2000 gun dealers were inspected last year. That is 34 out of 2000. We can do far better than this considering the physical, emotional and mental, spiritual and social damage gun violence can bring upon a whole neighborhood, community or most tragically a school. With gun violence being the number one cause of death among our children and youth in our nation it is morally incumbent upon all of us to do everything we can to stem the tide and weave the Beloved Community. HB 3076 will be a significant common sense action the 2025 Oregon State Legislature can take for the well being of all Oregonians. I thank you in advance for your important servant leadership on behalf of us all who call this beautiful state our home.