

Submitter: Robert Thomas
On Behalf Of: Boardman
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First, there is no such thing as an undetectable firearm. Certain Democratic politicians' way back in the 1990's were in an uproar when the polymer framed Glocks began to become popular. They were freaking out saying that they were undetectable in airport x-ray machines. Unfortunately for them, I assume due to lack of knowledge of firearms, for which they have no business making laws, when they don't know anything about that topic, that's impossible. All guns have metal barrels and metal operating mechanisms. The outlines of it will be visible regardless. Even if somehow, you could make the frame of a pistol invisible to x-rays, you can't with the steel slide, barrel, springs, trigger mechanism, or rails in the frame that take the force of the moving slide. All those parts at least as far as existing technology goes, have to be steel, or in a few cases with .22 calibers, aluminum. All are detectable. As far as making our own guns, that has been going on for hundreds of years. I have a black powder pistol kit I have yet to build, and many black powder shooters build their own guns. As technology has advanced, people with proper knowledge and the correct machine tools can assemble regular cartridge guns as well. Also, there is the 3-D printer now that allows some to be built in that manner. I understand the concern about the so-called ghost gun and the problems in tracking them in criminal cases. Rather than a blanket condemnation, and I know some of my pro-gun people might not like this. but my suggestion would be to take the assembled gun to a dealer and pay a small, fixed fee to have a number attached to the frame and submit paperwork as if it had been bought through a dealer. If the person's record showed no violations that would prevent them from owning a gun, then they are allowed to keep it. If they are doing it as a legitimate business, then of course they would need a business license and all that's involved. There would be no registry other than what there is when a person fills out the Federal form 4473 for a dealer purchase. There would be the background check just like any other sale and no prohibitive fees. I don't agree with compromising our guaranteed 2nd Amendment rights; however, this would make it on the same level as a dealer transaction and there should be no issues with that. There are always calls for "reasonable" gun control laws. Virtually none are reasonable and almost none are effective. It's so simple, criminals commit the crimes and they break the laws. You have somewhere over 125,000,000 lawful gun owners in the US, almost half the adult population. Those people, including myself, use a gun over 1,000,000 times per year in defense of ourselves or others, rarely resulting in death or even injury. According to the numbers gathered from sources like the FBI, you have somewhere over 20,000 murders, and not all by firearm, and that's only risen since the lawlessness of 2020. Before that, it was a little over half that number. Adding the home manufactured smokeless powder guns, to be more accurate, as black powder guns are almost never used in crimes, and therefore not in need of

further regulation, in as the same as a regular gun built by an established company like Colt or Smith and Wesson, on the same footing. To prohibit them entirely goes against the American tradition of building our own stuff, whether modifying a car to be what we want, to a gun, and there's no logical reason to if dealt with in the same way as any other manufacturer.