

March 20, 2023

Re: **HB 2005 “undetectable guns” – please support & improve**

Dear Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Andersen and Wallan, and members of the Committee:

I’m a gun owner who completed an NRA hunter safety course as a teenager. I competed on a rifle team in college. I’m a Vietnam veteran, a retired Navy officer, and served five terms as Benton County’s District Attorney.

I support HB 2005 to ban ghost and unserialized guns. Here’s why:

- **Ghost guns defeat security screenings** at sensitive locations like courthouses, airports, and the Capitol. Justice Clarence Thomas, in his majority opinion last year in the *Bruen* case, wrote that **courts can use analogies to “longstanding laws” protecting “sensitive places** such as schools or government buildings.”
- **Unserialized guns are the tools of criminals**. If HB 2005 doesn’t pass, we’ve effectively legalized the removal of serial numbers. Doing so will only make it easier for ex-felons, domestic abusers, and gang members to avoid legal consequences for their violent acts.

There needs to be a carrot as well as a stick to get undetectable guns out of circulation. Please consider including **a grace period for voluntary turn-in and buyback**. Otherwise people who legally possess untraceable firearms today will have no way or incentive to get rid of them without risking arrest.

Pete Sandrock
Portland