

OREGON STATE SENATE

March 23, 2023

To: House Committee on Judiciary in Support of HB 2005

Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Andersen and Wallan and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony today in support of House Bill 2005. This bill bans undetectable firearms, also known as 'ghost guns,' in Oregon. Ghost guns are doit-yourself, homemade guns, produced with simple building blocks available online. Ghost guns can often be created with 3-D printing tools that make them untraceable and without a serial number, giving easier access for terrorists, felons, and domestic abusers to create or obtain them, and undermines federal and state gun safety laws. The wider availability and ease of access to 3-D printers in recent years, creates an issue that needs to be addressed. Several states such as Washington, California and Nevada have already acted on this issue and have included requirements that all ghost guns must be reported to officials. According to Everytown.com, the number of ghost guns recovered by law enforcement in the US has increased at an alarming rate—rising 398% from 2016 to 2020. Nearly 24,000 ghost guns were recovered across the country during that five-year period. This is on top of the nearly 400,000 firearm background checks that Oregon State Police completed in 2022.

I have heard from numerous constituents over the years that their number one issue of concern is gun violence prevention. I know the fear and the anger of friends and loved ones that have been victims of gun violence or experienced a scary situation involving a firearm. I have pledged to do everything I can as a legislator to address these concerns and ensure that sensible measures are in place that keep us all protected. Everyone has the right to live free from fear. HB 2005 is another step toward realizing that goal. I respectfully urge your support.

Sincerely,

Senator Janeen Sollman Senate District 15