

**Senate Finance**

**04/22/2025 02:00 PM**

**HB25-1314 Peace Officer Status for Certain DOR Employees**

**Typed Text of Testimony Submitted**

| <b>Name, Position, Representing</b>                              | <b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>  |
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| Leif Sigstedt<br>Against<br>themselves                           | We don't need more police who's only purpose is to go after law abiding citizens, particularly our federally licensed gun dealers. This is absolutely outrageous and could likely cause a huge conflict between county sheriffs and this new department. It's also just completely unnecessary and a waste of money. Pretending that this won't cost us money is another crazy factor. Creating a whole new group of police isn't gonna be free. This bill used to be about the auto industry but now it's become another covert attack on our citizens and our rights. The people writing these bills are working against the citizens of Colorado and this must not be allowed to continue to happen. Although I'm too far away to come in and testify in person, please join me in opposing this bill or at least removing all of the part about making a new set of police to target and go after our law abiding FFLs. Enough is enough. |
| Robert Edmiston<br>Against<br>The Firearms Coalition of Colorado | Testimony in opposition to: HB25-1314, Peace Officer Status for Certain Department of Revenue Employees<br><br>The Firearms Coalition of Colorado<br>PO Box 1454, Englewood, CO 80150-1454<br><br>Thank you, Chair and Committee.<br><br>My name is Robert Edmiston. I am with the Firearms Coalition of Colorado an NRA-affiliated, all-volunteer, grassroots organization dedicated to the protection of individual rights and public safety.<br><br>I am a former U.S. Army Officer and Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor. I have a Master's Degree in Psychology, Counseling and Guidance.<br><br>I am writing in opposition to the measure under consideration. To quote from the bill summary:<br><br>"HB24-1353 created a new firearms dealer division... within the department. The bill" (HB25-1314) "designates the division director and deputy directors as peace officers  |

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|   | <p>who may be P.O.S.T.-board-certified. The bill makes agents in charge, criminal investigator supervisors, and criminal investigators in the division peace officers who must be P.O.S.T.-board-certified." The bill states that the authority of these persons also includes the enforcement of all the laws of the State of Colorado. This measure creates more armed state-level enforcers for firearms laws and other laws, in addition to the CBI employees tasked with policing "gun crime." Adding in the auto dealer enforcers, this proposal further usurps the authority of local law enforcement, especially the elected county sheriffs. We believe the development of a growing interagency state police force with broad authority is redundant, costly, and threatens to cause jurisdictional conflicts with local agencies. These conflicts have the potential to reduce the effectiveness of actual policing of criminal activity in the State of Colorado.</p> <p>We urge a "No" vote on this proposal.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Robert Edmiston<br/>         Volunteer Lobbyist<br/>         The Firearms Coalition of Colorado<br/>         PO Box 1454, Englewood, CO 80150-1454</p> |
| <p>Amber Fauson<br/>         Against<br/>         herself</p> | <p>The purpose and significance of HB25-1314 was changed last minute and scheduled for public hearing without going on the Senate calendar, not providing enough time for law enforcement, or the people at large to respond in full. That isn't democracy.</p> <p>The new Colorado ATF proposed by this bill would supercede our police with zero restrictions. It would essentially act like a state political police force. That alone is cause for concern. That coupled with the apparent disregard for democracy being exercised by the state is a blaring alarm.</p> <p>In addition, there are no states with their own ATF, and for good reason, firearms regulation is primarily a federal responsibility. If states were to have their own ATF agencies, there would be a risk, and indeed likelihood, of conflicting regulations, which could lead to confusion and undermine both federal and local law enforcements. It would establish a dangerous precedent, in Colorado and for other states. It's a slippery slope that we must not traverse.</p> <p>HB25-1314 is too extreme. Stability, democracy and freedom are fundamentally at risk. You must not let HB25-1314 pass.</p>           |

