



March 2024

TO: Senate Business, Labor & Technology Committee

RE: HB24-1353--Firearms Dealer Requirements & Permit

Dear Committee Members:

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is one of the oldest women's organizations in the country, empowering women since 1881. The mission of AAUW is to advance equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. More than 700 community leaders are members of AAUW branches around Colorado.

AAUW has declared that gun violence is a public health crisis, and women are especially vulnerable to domestic violence involving firearms. Gun safety is a complex issue, one which we need to deal with on many different fronts. We support requiring firearms dealers to have a state permit in addition to the training, security and reporting requirements in HB 1353. This bill can be an important piece in the gun safety puzzle we continue to work on.

For these reasons, AAUW of Colorado strongly supports HB 1353 and requests your YES vote in committee and throughout the process of becoming a law.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Su Ryden".

Su Ryden
AAUW of Colorado Public Policy Co-Director

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303.898.5797
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American Association of University Women--AAUW is a top-rated 501(c)3 charitable organization whose mission is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.



Testimony of Liddy Ballard, State Policy Manager, Brady
Support for HB24-1353
Before the Colorado House Business Affairs & Labor Committee

Chair Amabile, Vice Chair Ricks, and distinguished members of the House Business Affairs & Labor Committee

Founded in 1974, Brady works across Congress, courts, and communities, uniting gun owners and non-gun owners alike, to take action, not sides, and end America's gun violence epidemic. Our organization today carries the name of Jim Brady, who was shot and severely injured in the assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan. Jim and his wife, Sarah, led the fight to pass federal legislation requiring background checks for gun sales. Brady continues to uphold Jim and Sarah's legacy by uniting Americans from coast to coast, red and blue, young and old, liberal and conservative, to combat the epidemic of gun violence. **To this aim, the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence encourages legislators to support HB24-1353, which will ensure safer business practices, create a barrier to gun trafficking, and prevent gun violence before it happens.**

Colorado leaders have persisted in prioritizing the safety and well-being of all Coloradans by enacting and implementing proactive, research-informed policy solutions that prevent gun violence, save lives, and spare entire communities from loss, trauma and cycles of violence. And still, every 10 hours, a Coloradan is shot and killed by a gun, with over 900 citizens dying each year.¹ One firearm death is one too many and Colorado can do more – like pass HB24 – to ensure the safety of its citizens.

Gun Dealers Play a Critical Role in Preventing Violence in our Communities

Gun dealers play the critical role of gatekeepers to those wishing to acquire a firearm. Their conduct has a direct bearing on whether guns are diverted to the illegal market through straw sales or theft or made available to individuals who would harm themselves or others. The majority of illegal guns begin as legal firearms, initially built by licensed manufacturers and sold by dealers

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *WISQARS Injury Data*, <https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>

that are subsequently funneled into an illegal market, often through straw purchases. The term “straw purchase” refers to the criminal act of purchasing a firearm on behalf of another, an act that undermines the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) and makes it more difficult for law enforcement to trace guns or bullet casings found at crime scenes.² The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is the sole federal agency with regulatory and oversight authority over the gun industry, and has identified straw purchases as the most frequent type of trafficking channel and shockingly, ATF inspection reports reveal that dealers that allow straw purchases are often allowed to stay in business.³

Theft of guns is another common channel through which legal firearms become illegal weapons and it is the responsibility of Gun dealers to ensure that their businesses are not susceptible to theft. Gun theft is on the rise and the threat of stolen guns to public safety is substantial. Nearly 175,000 firearms were reported “stolen or lost” by dealers between 2004 and 2011;⁴ burglaries from dealers increased 48 percent and robberies increased 175 percent between 2012 and 2016.⁵ Most stolen guns are recovered in connection with crime near the location where the theft took place.⁶ ATF has expressed concerns about persistent theft from licensed dealers in 2018, calling it one of the agency’s primary “external challenges.”

Gun Dealers are Not Sufficiently Regulated

Gun dealers are the number one line of defense to preventing the diversion of firearms to the illegal market, but an average of *only eight percent* of gun dealers are inspected yearly by the ATF.⁷ Although the ATF is the sole federal agency with the authority to oversee dealers in the United States, the agency provides little to no regulation, is systematically underfunded, and is legally restricted in its inspection authority, creating a dangerous regulatory gap through which thousands of firearms are stolen, sold to prohibited individuals, or take various other paths to become trafficked firearms. Federal law does not require gun dealers to adhere to safe business practices or train their employees on recognizing signs of illegal or dangerous activity, nor are there federal requirements concerning security standards, video or audio recording of sales and premises, or liability insurance.

These regulatory failures put all Coloradans at risk and speak to the urgent need for Colorado to require that the over 2,000 dealers in the state engage in safe business practices and institute comprehensive security measures that prevent guns from being diverted to the criminal market

² Eaton Joshua, (November 2021). *The US Has a lot of Guns Involved in Crimes but Very Little Data on Where They Came From*, FiveThirtyEight <https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/the-u-s-has-a-lot-of-guns-involved-in-crimes-but-very-little-data-on-where-they-came-from/#:~:text=Because%20straw%20purchasing%20can%20be%20so%20hard%20to,them%205Bfrom%20legally%20owning%20a%20gun%5D%2C%E2%80%9D%20he%20said.>

³ Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, (2000). *Following the Gun: Enforcing Federal Laws against Firearms Traffickers* <http://www.nfaoa.org/documents/ATF-%20Following%20the%20Gun.%20Enforcing%20Federal%20Laws%20Against%20Firearms%20Traffickers.pdf>.

⁴ *Review of ATF’s Federal Firearms Licensee Inspection Program* (April 2013). Evaluation and Inspections Division, Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice. <https://oig.justice.gov/reports/2013/e1305.pdf>.

⁵ Parsons Chelsea & Vargas Eugenio Weigend. (July 2017). *Stolen Guns in America: A State-by-State Analysis*, CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/guns-crime/reports/2017/07/25/436533/stolen-guns-america/>.

⁶ Freskos, Brian (November 2017). *Missing Pieces: Gun theft from legal owners is on the rise, fueling violent crime across America*, THE TRACE. <https://www.thetrace.org/features/stolen-guns-violent-crime-america/>.

⁷ See ATF, *Fact Sheet – Facts and Figures for Fiscal Years 2015 – 2019*.

through straw purchases, trafficking, firearms loss, or theft.⁸ While Colorado has worked to fill some of these gaps, it must further strengthen gun dealer standards and oversight to create an environment where dealers have the tools they need to prevent gun trafficking and understand that they have a responsibility to engage in responsible business practices.

The Disproportionate Impact of Illegal Guns In Communities Of Color

While most Americans have been touched by gun violence in some way, communities of color are disproportionately impacted by this epidemic. According to CDC data, 89% of gun homicides take place in urban settings, and 73% of gun homicide victims are Black or Hispanic.⁹ Negligent, irresponsible, and illegal conduct by gun dealers has immense consequences, especially for communities of color that bear the heaviest burden of gun violence. Every year, hundreds of thousands of guns used in crime are recovered and traced by law enforcement.¹⁰ These guns do not just appear on America's streets. Appropriate conduct by gun dealers and their employees is critical to keeping guns out of the communities disproportionately impacted by gun violence.

According to ATF's latest data, a small percentage of dealers are the source of most crime guns in these impacted communities.¹¹ These dealers often willfully engage in illegal or irresponsible behavior by selling or transferring guns that they know will be trafficked into areas of high crime. Further, they profit off of this behavior and participate in an economic system that perpetuates systemic poverty and structural violence, both factors that are at least partly responsible for the high rates of gun violence in these communities. Offending dealers typically sit outside these communities, frequently in less diverse and more affluent suburbs, and profit off of irresponsible or illegal sales that drive guns into cities that later turn up at crime scenes.¹² Without action to require dealers to implement safe and responsible business practices, these trends will continue.

The harms from this violence stretch beyond the victims themselves. In addition to collective trauma, communities burdened by fear cannot prioritize quality of life. Gun violence perpetuates racial inequities by sustaining multi-generational cycles of violence, poverty, and trauma. Codifying recognized practices and minimum security standards provides needed standards for gun dealers to reduce trafficking and sales of firearms in communities of color and combat these issues.

This Bill Will Prevent Gun Violence Before it Happens

This legislation is critical to curbing dangerous sales, preventing guns from being diverted into the criminal market, and reducing the likelihood of straw purchases, theft, burglary, and loss of inventory. This bill strengthens gun dealer standards and oversight in Colorado to ensure that gun dealers have the tools they need to prevent gun trafficking and understand that they have an

⁸ U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, Federal Firearms Listings, <https://www.atf.gov/firearms/listing-federal-firearms-licensees>.

⁹ CDC, Fatal Injury and Violence Data (February 2022), <https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal.html>

¹⁰ ATF, *Data & Statistics* (January 2022), <https://www.atf.gov/resource-center/data-statistics>

¹¹ Collins, G. (May 2021). *Who Sold That Gun? Nobody's Telling*, New York Times <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/12/opinion/gun-laws-firearm.html>

¹² *Crime Guns in Impacted Communities*, Brady, <https://www.bradyunited.org/reports/crime-guns-in-impacted-communities>.

obligation to engage in responsible business practices, and allows the State to engage in critical inspections practices to ensure dealers are adhering to those responsible business practices.

Conclusion

As firearm sales skyrocketed across the country and within the state of Colorado in past years, Coloradans experienced major surges in both fatal and non-fatal shootings with tragic consequences. The epidemic of gun violence across Colorado necessitates comprehensive solutions, of which HB24-1353 plays a substantial part. Ensuring gun sellers are held to certain standards of responsible business practices will target the exact types of gun violence that Colorado faces today. **Brady strongly urges legislators to support HB24-1353 to help prevent gun violence in Colorado that will help and save countless lives.**

Sincerely,

Liddy Ballard

State Policy Manager

The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence



Re: opposition HB24-1353 state permit for gun dealers Sidney Patin to: LCS Committees
03/14/2024 01:02 PM

HB24-1353 gun dealers state permit

Gun merchants (dealers) already have to jump through many hoops to acquire and maintain Federal Firearms Licenses to be able to buy and sell guns in every state. The states do not have the right to require FFL dealers to get a state permit in addition to the federal permit.

The federal laws preempt any state laws that may conflict with the federal law and regulations, and the state laws cannot be more restrictive than the federal laws. In addition, requiring FFL dealers to expend additional funds for a state license is an infringement of the 2nd Amendment to the Constitution. The bill should be rejected.

submitted 3-14-2024

Sidney L. Patin

460 Silver Spring Cir.

Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Telephone: 719-578-5104

Email: spatin51@msn.com

Testimony in opposition to: HB24-1353 Firearms Dealers Requirements and Permits.
House Business Affairs Committee

Thank you, Chair and Committee

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. I am a former U.S. Army officer and vocational rehabilitation counselor. I have a master's degree in psychology, counseling, and guidance.

While we appreciate the efforts of the sponsors, I am writing in opposition to the measure under consideration. We believe the bill is unnecessary, involves Colorado in a messy federal legal situation, and is an unconstitutional burden on a natural right, especially for persons with economic disadvantages. The bill will do nothing to reduce crime, and will embolden criminals through a reduction in legally armed honest citizens.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (BATFE) already strictly regulates firearms dealers in Colorado. This bill adds a redundant layer of bureaucratic red tape to the administrative burdens borne by businesses dealing in guns. This onus will fall particularly hard on small gun shops with a few employees, driving many of them to go out of business or to leave the state in search of a more workable regulatory environment.

Fewer gun stores will result in reduced competition, higher prices, and will price many economically disadvantaged individuals out of their ability to exercise a constitutional right to armed self-defense. The bill will have a disparate impact on marginalized communities that may be experiencing higher crime rates for economic reasons.

Page 3, Line 20 reads as follows:

(4) "ENGAGED IN THE BUSINESS" HAS THE SAME MEANING SET FORTH IN 18 U.S.C. SEC. 921 (a)(21) AND ANY FEDERAL REGULATIONS PROMULGATED THEREUNDER.

This definition embroils Colorado in the current federal controversy surrounding BATFE rule making, which seeks to define virtually anyone who sells a firearm to make a profit as a "gun dealer." Collectors, who purchase guns as investments, do not intend to sell them at a loss.

We believe this measure is a totally useless burden on legal gun dealers, an economic disaster for lower income citizens, and an infringement on the constitutional rights of all Colorado citizens.

We urge a "No" vote by members of the committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robert Edmiston
Volunteer Lobbyist
The Firearms Coalition of Colorado
PO Box 1454, Englewood, CO 80150-1454

HB24-1353 Testimony

I am testifying to urge you to vote against HB24-1353 that will establish State Permitting for Gun Shops. All shops involved in the business of selling guns are already required to hold a Federal Firearms License and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) is required to inspect them to ensure they follow the laws regarding the sale of guns. The overwhelming majority of gun shops are small businesses run by honest individuals that try very hard to comply with all laws must survive on razor thin profit margins. Creating a second bureaucracy to accomplish the same function that the ATF performs will be redundant, and cost gun shop owners and tax payers additional funds for no gain in safety. Since a majority of guns used in gun crimes are stolen or illegal “ghost guns,” this law will not impact such crimes. The solution to gun crime is to hold those committing gun crimes accountable for their criminal acts with high bail amounts and significant imprisonment after

conviction. Thank-you for providing me the opportunity to provide my testimony against this bill.

House Business Affairs & Labor
 03/27/2024 01:30 PM
 HB24-1353 Firearms Dealer Requirements & Permit
 Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Isaac Chase Against Guns For Everyone	<p>Greetings to the Committee,</p> <p>I write today in opposition to HB24-1353.</p> <p>Small business is the backbone of the economy of our fine state. Increasing restrictions and licensing burdens small business in a negative way in nearly all cases, including in the case of the businesses affected by this proposed legislation.</p> <p>Firearms dealers are heavily regulated by the federal government in every state. As a former FFL holder, I can say from experience that not only are these regulations comprehensive, they are in fact very burdensome to the operation of the business.</p> <p>The point of regulation of restricted items such as firearms is to ensure public safety. While I disagree with this in principle as an obstruction of our liberty, as someone experienced with these regulations I can assure you that the restrictions imposed by the federal government comprehensively tracks the sales and purchases of these restricted items, discourages unlawful purchases, and provides heavy penalties for FFL's who do not comply.</p> <p>There is simply no need to add to these restrictions at a state level. There is no benefit to the citizens of the state of Colorado to add more burdensome rules and regulations to small business owners.</p> <p>I urge you to vote NO on this bill.</p> <p>Thank you for your time. Isaac Chase</p>
Miguel David Against himself	<p>This does nothing to prevent criminals and illegal gun activities and affects only law abiding citizens and the legal sales of firearms for personal defense. The attack on our second amendment needs to stop and this is one way to do that. Stop this bill.</p>
Michael Koenig Against himself	<p>Firearms Dealer Requirements and Permit. That is the name of the bill being presented. This bill does nothing to stop criminals nor stop criminal activity. This bill only affects law abiding citizens and law abiding businesses. So are you also going to present this same licensing requirement for ALL businesses in Colorado, I mean that would be the fair option. That seems to be the trend these days, EQUALITY. I don't think judging a person from their past is even allowed through Equal Opportunity Employment. As a Colorado based firearms business</p>

	<p>owner with a current ATF Federal Firearms License I already have to follow extremely strict laws and rules set in place by the ATF. Being licensed through the ATF allows a dealer to sell firearms in the USA. This bill states that the state of Colorado will have the ability to stop business from selling firearms from the state even with the ATF FFL. This makes no sense at all. The state of Colorado is not the governing agency in charge of firearms in the USA. So I am ask you to think about your job. It is to represent the people of Colorado. With sales in my store to both party sides I think the people of Colorado need to be represented not party lines.</p> <p>I leave you with this - "My people are being destroyed for lack of knowledge" Hosea 4:6 Thanks for your time</p>
<p>Paul Homberger Against themselves</p>	<p>I would first like to thank you for your willingness to serve as a representative for the people of Colorado. As an educator in our public school system, I understand the importance of educating, representing, and serving our community.</p> <p>Last year, I wrote an e-mail to you asking you to vote against the bill, HB23-1230 Prohibit Assault Weapons in Colorado. I was relieved that the bill was voted down and that you, the legislators, listened to the tens of thousands of emails, phone calls, and letters that were sent to you asking you to not support this bill. I had pride at the end of the legislative session that our representative government listened to the public.</p> <p>This year, I see that a similar bill, HB24-1292 Prohibit Certain Weapons Used in Mass Shootings, was introduced for consideration. I am disappointed to see the introduction of this bill. I respectfully ask that you vote no on this very similar bill.</p> <p>Last year, the legislature passed several bills pertaining to public safety and gun ownership. I ask that you allow more time to pass to gather data to see if those bills/laws are enough to have the desired effect on gun violence before dedicating time, resources, and energy into vilifying and punishing responsible gun owners with continuing to pass additional bills.</p> <p>Instead, put your energy and resources into addressing those individuals that would harm others regardless of the type of violence they choose. Propose bills that will help individuals that struggle with bullying, social acceptance, financial opportunity, hate, isolation, suicidal ideation, early childhood trauma, online addiction, and abuse whether physical, sexual, or emotional. We all need to be proactive and help our fellow Coloradoans before they decide to use any weapon illegally.</p>

	<p>I respectfully ask that you do not punish responsible gun owners. Instead, focus on helping those who need our support and help. Therefore, I ask that you vote no.</p>
<p>Brian Christie Against themselves</p>	<p>Dear Esteemed Legislators:</p> <p>I have read the text of HB24-1353 and wish to express my vehement opposition to it. I understand the intention is to protect the general public, but tightening controls on firearms dealers simply increases costs for all citizens wanting to legally purchase a firearm.</p> <p>This bill will do nothing to reduce crime or prevent criminals from possessing firearms. Instead, it simply imposes extra burdens on dealers and extra costs on both dealers and legal purchasers. I can't even think of a problem this is trying to solve.</p> <p>Our country's founders recognized a need for ordinary citizens to keep and bear arms. They did not intend this right to be unduly burdensome to ALL responsible citizens.</p> <p>You are lawmakers who were elected by the people, for the people to DEFEND our rights and our safety. This bill seeks to take away both. Despite what I'm sure are best intentions, this bill willfully defies the United States Constitution and undermines the rights of the very people you swore to serve.</p> <p>Please remove this bill from consideration. These attempts to track all good citizens exercising these rights only emboldens criminals: they don't generally purchase their firearms legally.</p> <p>Sincerely, Brian Christie</p>
<p>Briston Brown Against themselves</p>	<p>This bill creates more loops for FFLs to jump through and making the process more complicated than it needs to be. Additionally, a "dealer" could be placed on any individual that's just trying to sell off their guns not as a FFL and force them to go through this process when they are trying to get rid of their collection. This does nothing but create more hurdles that has no intention on curbing any crime or violence. I oppose this bill!</p>
<p>Pamela Brown Against themselves</p>	<p>What a ridiculous bill. This creates more problems for FFLs but has the potential to target regular Colorado citizens just trying to sell their guns - forcing them to become dealers under the state. This bill will do nothing to stop any sort of bad gun purchases or bad gun dealers, just being more problematic for law abiding FFLs and Colorado citizens. I highly oppose this bill!</p>
<p>Corinne Kerkezian Against themselves</p>	<p>Hello this proposed legislation would severely impact multiple facets of Coloradan's ability to conduct business and keep our communities safe. This proposed legislation would harm lawful business owners and even</p>

	<p>further reduce the viability of operating a legal business and ensuring firearm sales are legal and safe in Colorado. If there are less legal business due to this bill driving people out of business the reduced possible ways to legally attain firearms and the possible increased safety that entails will not lead to less gun violence. Instead it will lead to more of what we've seen with other commodities such as an increased black market. Just as seen with legal dispensaries massive amounts of red tape and barriers to business have only increased growing black market. Please understand that drowning lawful businesses in legal red tape and fees is a knee-jerk reaction and is solely harmful.</p>
<p>Michael Lidmila Against themselves</p>	<p>You are requiring honest federally licensed businesses to pay the state and maybe be allowed to continue doing business, clearly you would rather target honest citizens than attempt to stop criminals.</p>
<p>Larry Davis Against themselves</p>	<p>I believe this is a attack on our 2nd amendment</p>
<p>Kameron Bain Against themselves</p>	<p>Dear Members of the Colorado House,</p> <p>I strongly oppose HB24-1353, which addresses requirements for firearms dealers and permits. While prioritizing public safety and responsible firearms transactions is crucial, this bill imposes excessive regulations on firearms businesses and may hinder employment opportunities within the industry.</p> <p>My primary concern is the potential impact of these regulations on firearms dealers' operations. Mandating a state firearms dealer permit, annual training courses, and stringent record-keeping could burden businesses, especially smaller dealers. This may impede entrepreneurship and innovation and deter individuals from entering or expanding in the industry.</p> <p>Additionally, the bill's provisions on employee background checks and sales restrictions may exacerbate challenges for firearms businesses. Requiring annual criminal history checks and limiting sales hours could limit employment prospects, disproportionately affecting marginalized communities and those with past convictions seeking a fresh start.</p> <p>I am also troubled by elements of the bill that seem prejudiced against firearm businesses. Penalizing dealers for minor violations or past employee misdemeanors perpetuates negative stereotypes and unfairly stigmatizes the industry.</p> <p>While supporting responsible firearms transactions, I believe HB24-1353 overly burdens firearms businesses and risks unintended consequences for employment. I urge reconsideration of this bill to strike a better</p>

	<p>balance between regulatory oversight and the economic health of Colorado’s firearms industry.</p> <p>Sincerely, Kameron Bain</p>
<p>Robert Glenn Against themselves</p>	<p>I am writing to express my vehement opposition to the proposed HB24-1353 which would require every Colorado firearms dealers to obtain a Colorado state permit, in addition to their existing federal firearms license. As a staunch advocate for Second Amendment rights, a concerned citizen, and a constituent directly affected by this bill, I find it deeply troubling. Such a law would only serve to burden law-abiding businesses and law-abiding individuals and do nothing to enhance public safety.</p> <p>The imposition of such a redundant regulatory requirement not only adds unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles for legitimate firearms dealers but also ___sets a dangerous precedent of state overreach into matters already regulated at the federal level____. The current federal firearms licensing process is rigorous and comprehensive, ensuring that only reputable individuals and businesses are authorized to engage in the sale of firearms.</p> <p>This proposed state permit system would impose undue financial burdens on firearms dealers, many of which are small businesses and entrepreneurs are already operating on thin profit margins. Compliance costs associated with obtaining and maintaining an additional state permit and the impractical storage requirement would probably force many dealers to shutter their operations. As a consequence, the citizenry is thereby limited in the availability of firearms, which directly and negativley impacts the Second Amendment Rights of law-abiding citizens.</p> <p>It is also important to note that this bill could create confusion and inconsistency in firearms regulations, potentially leading to legal ambiguity and unintended consequences for both dealers and gun owners. Such a fragmented regulatory framework would undermine the uniformity and clarity provided by federal firearms laws and regulations.</p> <p>Your focus should be on fully enforcing existing laws and enhancing law enforcement efforts to combat illegal firearms trafficking and criminal misuse of firearms rather than burdening lawful businesses with unnecessary red tape. Violators who are found guilty by our court system should be incarcerated and punished for their crimes.</p>

	<p>I urge you to vote NO, oppose HP24-1353, and show that you support the Constitutional Rights of your constituents, without imposing undue burdens on those businesses that comply with existing regulations.</p> <p>Thanks for your consideration. *** VOTE NO ON HB24-1353 ***</p> <p>Robert Glenn 305 Poudre Bay Windsor, CO</p>
<p>Richard Koeppel Against Frugal Firearms</p>	<p>I oppose HB24-1353</p> <p>Again, we have enough laws, we just need to punish the ones that break the current laws.</p> <p>I am a FFL07, I already pay a fee to the government for my license, I do not need to pay another fee, which is almost 3 times as much as what I currently pay, that is an undue burden to me as a small business owner. We as FFL's are your first line of defense AGAINST straw purchasers' and people who should not purchase firearms. You should be helping us not trying to put us out of business. The ATF already has a plan to inspect FFL's and they do, in fact, in the past year they have increased their inspections by at least 3 times as many as the previous year. The entire purpose of this plan is to put out of business all gun stores, by going out on witch hunts, planting spies, and using other unscrupulous plans and tactics to try to get a gun store to make a very tiny mistake. Then they will fine them so much that they will have to go out of business. There (the left liberals and democrats) line of thought is that, if there are no more gun stores then we will have no more crime. No, as I stated in the beginning.</p> <p>he only way, only way that we can Stop mass shootings is to charge them within days and bring them to court within days. The system needs to be fast tracked. The excuse that they are incompetent for trial is just a ploy and their defense is lying. The days of dealing with horse thief's needs to come back and the same fate should be brought to those that do the mass shooting</p>
<p>Mark Kaiser Against themselves</p>	<p>HB 24-1353 HAS NO REAL PURPOSE OTHER THAN ANOTHER FEE FOR DOING BUSINESS IN COLORADO.</p> <p>I can see no reason for this bill. It only adds another layer of bureaucracy to a law-abiding business. Secondly, if you are looking to drive gun shops out of Colorado, you will not only be losing some significant sales tax revenue, but the gun buyers will simply go to other states. And criminals, who don't buy guns at legitimate gun shops anyway, will still obtain their weapons at illegitimate sources.</p> <p>It also is evident that Federal laws cover everything proposed in this legislation. Why add another layer of control that will not in no way</p>

	<p>control the illegal purchase of guns. This level of bureaucracy will only add additional unneeded costs to a legitimate business, and further will drive sales tax revenue to other states.</p> <p>There is no reason for this bill other than another revenue source, which will be misused and deter no crime whatsoever. Please vote NO on this unneeded legislation.</p> <p>Mark Kaiser Registered Volunteer Lobbyist 7035 Zenobia St Westminster, Co 80030 3035980630</p>
<p>Mark Kaiser Against themselves</p>	<p>HB 24-1353 HAS NO REAL PURPOSE OTHER THAN ANOTHER FEE FOR DOING BUSINESS IN COLORADO.</p> <p>I can see no reason for this bill. It only adds another layer of bureaucracy to a law-abiding business. Secondly, if you are looking to drive gun shops out of Colorado, you will not only be losing some significant sales tax revenue, but the gun buyers will simply go to other states. And criminals, who don't buy guns at legitimate gun shops anyway, will still obtain their weapons at illegitimate sources.</p> <p>It also is evident that Federal laws cover everything proposed in this legislation. Why add another layer of control that will not in no way control the illegal purchase of guns. This level of bureaucracy will only add additional unneeded costs to a legitimate business, and further will drive sales tax revenue to other states.</p> <p>There is no reason for this bill other than another revenue source, which will be misused and deter no crime whatsoever. Please vote NO on this unneeded legislation.</p> <p>Mark Kaiser Registered Volunteer Lobbyist 7035 Zenobia St Westminster, Co 80030 3035980630</p>
<p>Terry Browning Against themselves</p>	<p>I am opposed to the additional requirements for FFL holders to be permitted via the State. FFL businesses already meet Federal requirements to obtain the FFL. Additional permitting is unnecessary and nothing more than a burden to put FFL holders out of business.</p> <p>Respectfully, Terry Browning</p>
<p>Joseph Pero Against themselves</p>	<p>Vote NO on HB24-1353 - Redundant State Permits for Firearm Sales.</p> <p>As a citizen of Colorado, I strongly urge you to OPPOSE HB24-1353! A new state permitting system for firearms dealers who already go through Federal Firearm Licensing programs will do absolutely nothing to stop criminals. The bill has strict penalties for noncompliance and may put a firearms dealer out of business for a simple mistake. It is obvious it is our "representatives'" plan to kill lawful firearm businesses, thereby effectively rendering ownership of guns difficult if not impossible. This infringes on the Second Amendment.</p>

	<p>I respectfully and strongly urge you to vote AGAINST HB24-1353. Thank you. Joseph Pero</p>
<p>Robert Glenn Against themselves</p>	<p>I am writing to express my vehement opposition to the proposed HB24-1353 which would require every Colorado firearms dealers to obtain a Colorado state permit, in addition to their existing federal firearms license. As a staunch advocate for Second Amendment rights, a concerned citizen, and a constituent directly affected by this bill, I find it deeply troubling. Such a law would only serve to burden law-abiding businesses and law-abiding individuals and do nothing to enhance public safety.</p> <p>The imposition of such a redundant regulatory requirement not only adds unnecessary bureaucratic hurdles for legitimate firearms dealers but also ___sets a dangerous precedent of state overreach into matters already regulated at the federal level___. The current federal firearms licensing process is rigorous and comprehensive, ensuring that only reputable individuals and businesses are authorized to engage in the sale of firearms.</p> <p>This proposed state permit system would impose undue financial burdens on firearms dealers, many of which are small businesses and entrepreneurs are already operating on thin profit margins. Compliance costs associated with obtaining and maintaining an additional state permit and the impractical storage requirement would probably force many dealers to shutter their operations. As a consequence, the citizenry is thereby limited in the availability of firearms, which directly and negatively impacts the Second Amendment Rights of law-abiding citizens.</p> <p>It is also important to note that this bill could create confusion and inconsistency in firearms regulations, potentially leading to legal ambiguity and unintended consequences for both dealers and gun owners. Such a fragmented regulatory framework would undermine the uniformity and clarity provided by federal firearms laws and regulations.</p> <p>Your focus should be on fully enforcing existing laws and enhancing law enforcement efforts to combat illegal firearms trafficking and criminal misuse of firearms rather than burdening lawful businesses with unnecessary red tape. Violators who are found guilty by our court system should be incarcerated and punished for their crimes.</p> <p>I urge you to vote NO, oppose HP24-1353, and show that you support the Constitutional Rights of your constituents, without imposing undue burdens on those businesses that comply with existing regulations.</p>

	<p>Thanks for your consideration. *** VOTE NO ON HB24-1353 ***</p>
<p>Terry Manwaring Against himself</p>	<p>I am a recently retired Captain of Special Investigations Section of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office and Reserve US Marshal. My assignment included oversight of my deputies and officers assigned to Undercover SIU, FBI Safe Streets, DEA, US Marshal FLAG, JTTF, West Metro Drug Task Force, and JCSO Cheeto Unit. I was the SWAT Commander in charge of the overall tactical units response to Columbine HS tragedy. After 40 plus years of law enforcement service I am well aware of the workings of the criminal element. The criminal doesn't care about gun laws, it doesn't stop them from committing crimes, look at Chicago, New York, and California, jurisdictions with the most restrictive guns laws. The crime rate is staggering. I am strictly opposed to the sin taxation of guns and ammunition, it just doesn't work and only penalizes the law abiding citizen. Criminals don't buy guns and ammunition, they steal it! You must first attack the mental health crisis, gang violence, and drug addiction to solve our shooting problem. The criminal element will continue to flourish on shooting crimes even with this taxation. You're not solving anything other sin taxing the citizens that obey the laws. I adamantly oppose this bill!</p>
<p>Richard Koeppel Against himself</p>	<p>I oppose HB24-1353</p> <p>Again, we have enough laws, we just need to punish the ones that break the current laws.</p> <p>I am a FFL07, I already pay a fee to the government for my license, I do not need to pay another fee, which is almost 3 times as much as what I currently pay, that is an undue burden to me as a small business owner. We as FFL's are your first line of defense AGAINST straw purchasers' and people who should not purchase firearms. You should be helping us not trying to put us out of business. The ATF already has a plan to inspect FFL's and they do, in fact, in the past year they have increased their inspections by at least 3 times as many as the previous year. The entire purpose of this plan is to put out of business all gun stores, by going out on witch hunts, planting spies, and using other unscrupulous plans and tactics to try to get a gun store to make a very tiny mistake. Then they will fine them so much that they will have to go out of business. There (the left liberals and democrats) line of thought is that, if there are no more gun stores then we will have no more crime. No, as I stated in the beginning.</p> <p>he only way, only way that we can Stop mass shootings is to charge them within days and bring them to court within days. The system needs to be fast tracked. The excuse that they are incompetent for trial is just a ploy and their defense is lying. The days of dealing with horse</p>

	<p>thief's needs to come back and the same fate should be brought to those that do the mass shooting</p>
<p>Rionda Osman For League of Women Voters of Colorado</p>	<p>TO: House Committee on Business Affairs & Labor Re: HB24-1353 Firearms Dealer Requirements and Permit</p> <p>My name is Rionda Osman. I am the head of the Task Force on Gun Violence Prevention of the League of Women Voters of Colorado. The League is a nonpartisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League supports policies to protect public safety, and, specifically, the League supports regulation of firearms for consumer safety.</p> <p>I submit this letter as testimony in support of HB24-1353 Firearms Dealer Requirements and Permit.</p> <p>This bill requires Federal Firearms Licensees (FFL) to apply for state licenses to sell firearms. The state license requires that dealers follow responsible business practices and safety measures to prevent dangerous individuals from accessing guns. The licensing system gives the state the power to conduct oversight in the absence of action from the federal government.</p> <p>Information provided by the Brady organization (https://www.bradyunited.org/program/combating-crime-guns/what-is-a-crime-gun) shows that the number of crime guns, recovered by law enforcement, is a measure of negligent or reckless business practices by gun dealers. A small number, only 5%, of gun dealers are responsible for 90% of recovered crime guns. This small minority is fueling the illegal gun market and the gun violence epidemic.</p> <p>Federal law enforcement, specifically the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), is supposed to inspect each dealer every three years. However, in 2019, of Colorado's 2,396 FFLs, only 171 – or 7.1% – were inspected by the ATF.</p> <p>Given that the ATF inspections are woefully lacking, the State of Colorado will be able to provide necessary oversight. To reinforce the need for this type of oversight, we need only look to Everytown for Gun Safety reports on the 15 states that currently license firearms dealers. The states with the strictest regulations require background checks and training for employees, robust physical security to prevent theft, and thorough record-keeping. In-state gun trafficking is 64 percent lower in places with strong gun dealer regulations and oversight.</p> <p>I urge you to support HB24-1353 to protect the citizens of Colorado.</p> <p>Respectfully, Rionda Osman</p>

<p>Levi McAuliff Against themselves</p>	<p>This bill aims to punish gun shops for selling firearms. It is a way for radical democrats to try and make it too hard or too expensive to sell guns in Colorado. Putting this bill into law will have negative devastating consequences on local FFL dealers in the state who are people you represent, trying to make a living. Adding extra steps for a gun shop to function will not reduce crime due to the simple fact that criminals are not going to gun shops. Doesn't take a genius to figure that one out.</p>
<p>Gary Travis Against themselves</p>	<p>Representatives, I strongly oppose HB 24-1353. The Federal requirements for licensing and overseeing firearms dealers are stringent enough. An additional State licensing system will be redundant and costly for Colorado taxpayers. As a Colorado voter, I urge you to vote against HB24-1353.</p>
<p>Jerome Johnson Against themselves</p>	<p>I wish to express my firm stance against these bills. The bills will strip law abiding citizens of their rights. The descriptions as listed will include guns as assault weapons that can be hunting firearms. Removing the ability to pass the weapons to a relative is absurd. It is also illegal confiscation of law abiding citizens personal property and is a violation of the Constitution. Passing laws that won't be effective and won't stop mass shootings just a waste and difficult to enforce. If current gun laws are enforced it would greatly help the problem. More mental health programs are needed not unrealistic laws. If police weren't spending time dealing with over 411 calls on illegal immigrants they would have time to protect citizens.</p>
<p>Donald Daniels Against themselves</p>	<p>Please reject the proposed "targeted" legislation. This legislation is for law-abiding citizens and directly impacts the bureaucracy and the costs of weapon ownership which impedes the right to own a weapon for those who do not have additional disposable income. I am retiring, experiencing a 95% cut in income and certainly after 57 years of weapon ownership do not need the additional expense. I already have the cost of the recreation and I proactively like learning (paying for learning) the safe use of weapons. Lets suppose a criminal (not the brightest bunch) accidentally were to comply with this law. Would that criminal be 1% of the criminals? The legislation fails to show a path to prevent criminal use of weapons. In-closing, were the authors trying to 1) prevent criminal use of Weapons? 2) Prevent/obstruct owning a weapon, that is otherwise encouraged in our national constitution 3) Increase taxpayer cost with a duplicate state registry, rather than have the state obtain a copy of the national registry (quite a bit cheaper) 4) Placate a group of citizens who are recklessly obstructing weapon ownership for law abiding citizens rather than deal with root cause use of weapons by criminals 5) mistakenly legislating gun restriction which is explicitly allowed as opposed to legislating and enforcing weapon use by criminals? Please be responsible and not a populist sensationalist. Fix</p>

	<p>something rather than hiding it. Get the criminals, punish them, rehabilitate them, fix their lack of opportunity to satisfy their economic status with criminal activity. Leave the law abiding citizen alone.</p>
<p>Pat Rottschaefer For themselves</p>	<p>My name is Pat Rottschaefer and my words are my own. I had 3 children and now I have 2 because my daughter Christie had an argument with an angry young man with a gun. In the heat of the moment he drew his gun and shot and killed her. This was 20 years ago and the grief I feel today is undiminished. She loved to sing and dance, have a good time and oh my she did love whales. She never saw her son go to school and graduate. She and I never got to have chats about daily events. She is just gone.</p> <p>HB24-1353 would require all gun dealers to obtain a Colorado Permit and institute specific measures to ensure their product was safe from theft and employees all had training. This is not much to ask of a business that sells something so deadly! I cannot imagine that any responsible gun dealer should operate in any other way. We need to do what we can to insure that these deadly objects are handled safely and do not end up in the secondary market for firearms where anyone can purchase them regardless of whether they are legally allowed to do so. Something must be done to stop the proliferation of firearms in our society to protect all of us.</p> <p>Please vote yes on HB24-1353 to save lives.</p>
<p>Michael Lidmila Against themselves</p>	<p>You are clearly attacking legal businesses that have been deemed fit by the federal agency, this an attack on legal businesses and does nothing to stop crime.</p>
<p>Lawrence Bayer Against themselves</p>	<p>Why put more restrictions and invasion of privacy for honest citizens of Colorado?</p> <p>Dishonest people intent on using firearms illegally will avoid the background checks and obtain weapons by any illegal means necessary. The only people who would fall into this proposed record system would be honest citizens who plan to use their firearms in legal manners.</p> <p>Instead of creating more hardships for law abiding citizens, why not broaden and expand penalties and sentences of those who intend or have committed crimes.</p>
<p>Kelly Hegarty Against themselves</p>	<p>Dear Committee Members, I urge you to vote "NO" on House Bill24-1353 - Firearms Dealer Requirements & Permit. This bill redundantly creates a state permitting system for federally regulated firearm license holders.</p> <p>The new permit adds one more layer of scrutiny and potentially state sanctioned harassment of these already highly regulated businesses.</p>

	<p>HB24-1353 adds additional conditions, and requirements on the law-abiding small gun shops and dealers, along with random inspections and severe penalties for violations; penalties upwards of \$250,000!</p> <p>This will act to shut down many small businesses and dealers, which seems to be a reoccurring theme with our Colorado legislation over the past two cycles.</p> <p>This will also increase costs for all law-abiding purchasers. Dealers will have no choice but to add additional costs to comply with this new permit and additional requirements to their merchandise, leaving law-abiding sportsmen paying higher prices because the state cannot figure out how to handle the criminal element. Remember - criminals don't follow the laws.</p> <p>Please stop the continued assault on our law-abiding gun shops and owners. Vote "NO" on this bill. Thank You</p> <p>Kelly Hegarty</p>
<p>Craig Bauer Against themselves</p>	<p>There are several problems with this proposal. It is taxation with representation, it is an Unconstitutional registration and violation of supreme court precedence, aimed at punishing business owners simply for operating in the firearms industry. It will increase overhead in an industry that is already struggling with the expenses incurred by a plethora of existing Unconstitutional restrictions. This will incur yet another crippling expense by forcing business owners to halt their operations for an unspecified period. And of course, this is an unconstitutional infringement on the right of the people to keep and bear arms. Further, this is felony conspiracy. Title 18 ss 241 USC conspiracy against rights VIOLATION. You are hereby lawfully ordered to cease and desist Unconstitutional infringement as a matter of the act of treason it defines as a matter of the national security clause in the second Amendment. You have ZERO authority to enact firearms legislation per the 14th Amendment. You are reminded that you can be abolished.</p>
<p>Craig Bauer Against themselves</p>	<p>There are several problems with this proposal. It is TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION, Unconstitutional registration and violation of supreme court precedence, aimed at punishing business owners simply for operating in the firearms industry. It will increase overhead in an industry that is already struggling with the expenses incurred by a plethora of existing Unconstitutional restrictions. This will incur yet another crippling expense by forcing business owners to halt their operations for an</p>

	<p>unspecified period. And of course, this is an unconstitutional infringement on the right of the people to keep and bear arms. Further, this is felony conspiracy. Title 18 ss 241 USC conspiracy against rights VIOLATION. You are hereby lawfully ordered to cease and desist Unconstitutional infringement as a matter of the act of treason it defines as a matter of the national security clause in the second Ammendment. You have ZERO authority to enact firearms legislation per the 14th Ammendment. You are reminded that you can be abolished.</p>
<p>Mark Micono Against themselves</p>	<p>I am opposed to HB24-1353.</p>
<p>DAVID SWASCHNIG Against themselves</p>	<p>I am writing to you to urge you to oppose this egregious bill. This bill would do nothing but add an undue burden to and already heavily federally regulated industry. There are already numerous restrictions, regulations, and licensing required for firearms dealers. This is clearly nothing more than attempt to infringe further upon second amendment rights and significant government overreach. Again please vote no on this inappropriate overreach. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.</p>
<p>Laura Jensen Against themselves</p>	<p>This bill is a blatant attempt to destroy gun rights in Colorado by punishing the dealers with so much red tape that approval is impossible. It is also an affront to private enterprise and free market economics. There is no good that can come out of this, in fact the goal of this bill is to prevent law-abiding citizens from practicing our Second Amendment freedoms, destroy small businesses, and gain as much control as possible. I urge you to respect our rights and our economy and stop this bill.</p>
<p>Joseph Berardis Against themselves</p>	<p>Dear Members of the Colorado General Assembly,</p> <p>I write as a staunch advocate for the Second Amendment, expressing strong opposition to House Bill 24-1353. This bill, while aimed at enhancing public safety, raises serious constitutional concerns, places undue burdens on firearms dealers, prescribes excessive punishments, introduces impractical requirements for gun shops, and ultimately infringes upon the rights it purports to protect.</p> <p>Constitutional Concerns: The Second Amendment's clear directive that the right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed is compromised by this bill. Imposing additional state-level permits atop federal licenses needlessly complicates lawful firearm access, impacting citizens' rights to self-defense and lawful recreation.</p> <p>Burdens on Gun Shops: Small firearms dealers, in particular, will face significant financial and operational hardships due to the proposed permit fees, mandatory training, and stringent security measures. These requirements risk driving reputable dealers out of business, reducing lawful access to firearms, and negatively impacting our local economies.</p>

	<p>Excessive Punishment: The proposed fines and felony charges for non-compliance are disproportionately severe. Such punitive measures could lead to unjust consequences for minor administrative oversights, stifling the firearms industry in our state and discouraging new market entrants.</p> <p>Infringement on Rights: By making it more difficult for dealers to operate, this bill indirectly infringes upon the people's rights to access firearms for legal purposes. The complexity and cost of compliance may limit citizens' ability to purchase firearms, impacting their right to personal safety and security.</p> <p>In striving for public safety, we must not infringe upon the constitutional rights that form the bedrock of our nation. I urge you to reconsider the approach taken in HB 24-1353, seeking instead to balance safety with the preservation of our fundamental rights.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Joseph Berardis</p>
<p>Susan Enfield For themselves</p>	<p>Hello, Chair Amabile and members of the committee.</p> <p>I am submitting written testimony in support of HB24-1353 Firearms Dealer Requirements and Permit.</p> <p>My family and the greater Boulder community have been negatively affected by the increase in gun violence. In particular, the 2021 mass shooting at King Soopers, which killed ten people including a police officer, directly impacted thousands of people in the surrounding neighborhoods. This tragic event had a lasting and traumatic effect on our sense of safety in our daily lives and routines.</p> <p>In an average year, 930 people die, and 466 are wounded by guns in Colorado.</p> <p>Requiring gun dealers to obtain a Colorado permit and to put in place specific measures regarding employees, training, and deterring theft is a common-sense step toward improving public safety in Colorado's communities.</p> <p>Indeed, a 2023 report from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives found that stolen guns became more prevalent in U.S. gun crime between 2017 and 2021.</p> <p>Since guns can and do kill people, it makes good sense to ensure that dealers selling guns run their businesses with the highest regard for safety and preventing theft.</p>

	<p>Please vote "Yes" on HB24-1353. Thank you.</p>
<p>Shawn Herrin Against themselves</p>	<p>I am writing to express our strong opposition to HB24-1353, a bill that would impose an additional layer of bureaucracy and unnecessary regulations on law-abiding firearms dealers in Colorado.</p> <p>HB24-1353 would require gun stores in Colorado to obtain a state-issued permit in addition to a federal firearm license. To qualify, the dealer can't have violated a gun law in the past three years or have had a license revoked or denied in the past three years. The bill also requires a dealer and their employees to complete an annual training that goes over current firearm laws, theft prevention, and how to recognize if someone is buying a gun for someone else or to harm themselves.</p> <p>While we understand the intent of the bill is to promote public safety, we believe that this legislation will place an undue burden on small businesses and will not effectively address the root causes of gun violence in our state. The additional costs and time required to obtain and maintain a state permit, as well as the annual training, will disproportionately affect small businesses and may even force some to close their doors.</p> <p>Furthermore, the proposed regulations do not address the issue of illegal gun sales or straw purchases, which are the primary sources of firearms used in criminal activities. Instead, the bill targets law-abiding dealers who are already subject to strict federal regulations and background checks.</p> <p>We urge you to consider the negative impact this bill would have on small businesses and the lack of evidence that it would significantly reduce gun violence. We ask that you vote against HB24-1353 and instead focus on measures that address the root causes of gun violence, such as mental health support, community outreach, and education.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely, Shawn Herrin</p>
<p>Matthew Vostrejs Against themselves</p>	<p>My name is Matthew Vostrejs. I am a resident of Colorado, zip code 80124, I am writing to urge this committee to oppose HB24-1353. HB24-1353 creates a new state permitting system for sellers of firearms who already go through the rigorous Federal Firearm Licensing programs and creates strict penalties for noncompliance. This is merely an attack on the firearm industry and will do nothing to stop violence and will drive gun shops out of business. SB24-066 requires the collection of firearm retailer codes or MCC's. Collecting firearm retailer financial transaction data amounts to surveillance and registration of</p>

	<p>law-abiding gun owners. Those purchasing firearms from retail establishments already undergo an FBI National Instant Criminal Background Check Systems (NICS) and any additional information collected would be aimed at otherwise lawful gun sales.</p> <p>Please vote no on HB24-1353.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Brittany Marz Against themselves	<p>We the people have the right to own firearms and buy firearms. These bills are trash and just another way to infringe on our rights as Americans. Gun shops and guns are not the problem in this world it's the politics that need help. You have lost sight of what the real America is and we will not sit quietly because of your stupidity. Gun shops have been around for centuries and so have gun owners with no issues like we are now seeing today and we should not all be punished because of the wrong doing by others. I say NO to these bills and do not support you in gun purchase tracking or trying to rid our state of gun shops!!!! These are our rights go back and read some history!!!!</p>
Theodore Cahoon Against themselves	<p>Requiring a state permit to sell firearms with a federal license is just a ploy to reduce the number of dealers. It will have no effect on crime because criminals don't acquire firearms through dealers. It would also require an increase in government spending to write the regulations and to hire personnel to enforce those regulations. Of course this government spending will be paid for by taxes, of which I am already paying far too much. And fees charged to dealers will be passed on to customers who pay too much due to ineffective regulations and inflation. Instead of punishing the lawful firearms community, why don't you punish the criminals that cause the problems?</p>
Cynthia Dozier Against themselves	<p>I am opposed to HB24-1353. This will not make anyone safer and will only create unnecessary regulations on law-abiding business owners. This will not help solve the problem of criminals and mentally ill folks who need real solutions. Thank you.</p>
Huey Laugesen Against Colorado State Shooting Association	<p>My name is Huey Laugesen. I am the executive director of the Colorado State Shooting Association (the official state association of the NRA). I submit this testimony in opposition to House Bill 24-1353 on behalf of our members across all 64 of Colorado's counties.</p> <p>Law-abiding gun merchants' businesses are already struggling to stay afloat due to a plethora of existing restrictions that have failed to reduce gun violence. New restrictions and expenses imposed on law-abiding gun merchants only help black market dealers thrive, resulting in more guns in the hands of criminals. This bill is dangerous. It will put small businesses, and worse, innocent lives, at risk.</p> <p>The Colorado State Shooting Association and all of our members urge you to vote "NO" on House Bill 24-1353.</p>
Matt Eide Against themselves	<p>It is ironic to me that gun control efforts routinely scoff at the idea of citizens aiding the state in the preservation of life and safety through lawful use of self-defense. "The good guy with a gun is a dangerous myth," they say. "Let law enforcement do their job; you have no business</p>

	<p>carrying a gun." Unless, of course, law enforcement needs help enforcing the law AGAINST GUN OWNERS! Then, Yes, by all means: in this case—let's enlist, indeed, mandate and train, gun shop owners to do the job of law enforcement. And hold them accountable for it. If the state finds out later that you sold the gun to this guy, who committed a crime with it? Well, you should have been playing law enforcement officer and prevented this crime! The real goal here is to make selling a constitutionally protected class of items more expensive and dangerous in terms of legal repercussions so as to limit guns by inhibiting the supply side of the economic equation. Please stand for Colorado businesses and citizens' rights. Thank you.</p>
<p>Jeany Rush Against themselves</p>	<p>TO: HOUSE BUSINESS AFFAIRS & LABORCOMMITTEE RE: HB24-1353 FIREARMS DEALER REQUIREMENTS & PERMITS FROM: JEANY RUSH, COLORADO SPRINGS CONSTITUENT 3-27-24 Vote: NO NO NO</p> <p>Upon review of your bill / summary I am shocked, and appalled at the amount of 2nd Amendment Violations you have managed to put into one space. There are laws about who can deal with sales, etc. You are now adding interference to commerce, on a specific subject matter. Not all sales of all products, just more strangling of weapons sales, and more infringement into our actual rights to own and purchase firearms. By doubling down on restrictions, adding more and more requirements, you are literally strangling more free enterprise. Further the constitution gives us a right as lawful citizens to be afforded the phrase: 'SHALL NOT BE INFRINGED" Yet here we are with yet another frivolous attack on our second amendment rights. Training requirements, and more and more in-store rules. You as committees are again over reaching your rights as it pertains to our freedoms and rights as citizens. This is wrong on all levels! And further, the intrusion into requirements for employees, and more. You do realize those choosing to do harm with firearms, will always get them, and you are only punishing law abiding folks in the industry. NO on this!</p>
<p>Timothy Dyer Against themselves</p>	<p>Please OPPOSE HB24-1353! This does nothing to stop criminal behavior and puts an unnecessary burden on already federally regulated businesses. This also puts a heavy burden on the taxpayers of Colorado where resources could be better used investigating serious crimes such as drug trafficking and human trafficking. Thank you for listening.</p>

March 14, 2024

Dear House Business Affairs and Labor Committee,

Thank you for your time and effort. I appreciate being able to explain why I think you should vote yes on HB14-1353, Gun Dealer Permitting.

After reading the bill, I looked up the current requirements for gun dealers. The Giffords Law Center website (updated January 5, 2023) provides the details, and, in my opinion, the Federal requirements for people hoping to operate a gun dealership are easy to fulfill and maintain. One needs to provide a background check, be a US citizen over 21, and be legally able to own a gun. Additionally, Colorado requires a business license but no state firearms dealer license – just the federal one. The Giffords website points out that the ATF struggles to oversee the licensees throughout the country due to limited resources.

The ATF requirements already in place seem fair and certainly make gun dealer business ownership accessible to most people. But the lack of oversight is a problem for businesses that sell products that are manufactured to be potentially lethal. These businesses should be among the most stringently regulated. Such regulation doesn't take away any law-abiding person's right to sell and purchase firearms. It is just another safety net that helps make sure everyone follows the rules.

The Gun Dealer Permitting Bill would address the current inadequate oversight; create clear boundaries for staying in compliance and avoiding permit revocation; and hold gun dealers accountable for following laws. Additionally, gun dealers would attend an annual class just as teachers, real estate agents, child care providers, police officers, and so many others do. The requirements outlined in the bill do not seem overly burdensome for people whose job it is to supply firearms.

Please vote yes on HB24-1353.

Sincerely,

Lucy Pfeffer

Why is the second amendment always on the chopping block, every time there is a horrific and tragic shooting by a CRIMINAL PSYCHOPATH. Us law abiding citizens are tired of our CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, the 2ND AMENDMENT, ALWAYS being thrown out the window like yesterday's dirty bath water. I am completely dumbfounded as to how this, along with all the other B.S. laws you are trying to pass, and laws that have already passed, will do anything to change the behavior of the CRIMINAL PSYCHOPATHS! They already do not abide by the law; this is obvious as to the acts they commit. Why should I have consequences for the MENTALLY ILL. The mental health crisis in our state and nation MUST be addressed first and foremost. This is how violence of all kinds can be solved. Attack the underlying problem, MENTAL HEALTH. Banning firearms is not the solution nor will it solve the problem. I am, have been, and always will be a RESPONSIBLE LAW-ABIDING gun owner. As a Marine Corps Veteran and former Law Enforcement Officer, I swore to defend the constitution, which includes the 2ND AMENDMENT. You took an oath to do more or less the same, minus signing a blank check for your life, and most of our ELECTED OFFICIALS, who are supposed to have the interests of those you serve, myself and many others, in mind, refuse to support the law-abiding citizens of our state and continue to tear apart our CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, particularly the 2ND AMENDMENT. Shame on you! The only thing these absurd laws are going to do is to make LAW ABIDING citizens criminals, and prevent the LAW ABIDING from defending ourselves, families and loved ones.

I am a current small FFL business owner. Why do we need to add more restrictions and fees on a state level when we (FFL's) are already regulated by the ATF. What does adding a state level of the same thing that is required federally going to change besides being more of a pain in the ass to us small business owners going to accomplish? I already have my FFL, why do I need a state permit? Mind your own business and stay out of mine. Everything you are asking for is already monitored and enforced at the federal level. STOP making things so complicated. This bill will do absolutely nothing to change anything other than being a giant inconvenience and to put small business owners like me out of business, unless of course that is your agenda. If it is shame on you again!

I am asking you to please use some common sense and DO NOT strip our CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS away from those of us who are law abiding and have and will continue to defend our constitution and our way of life. Many great men and women have paid the ultimate sacrifice defending the constitution. Let's not negate the efforts of the men and women who have, are and will continue to defend our constitution and the American way of life.

Sincerely,

A concerned Colorado and United States citizen, father and husband.

March 10, 2024

Written Testimony: HB24-1353 Firearms Dealer Requirements & Permit

Submitted by: Paige Leonard, Boulder

Thank you Committee Members for reading my testimony in support of HB24-1353
Firearms Dealer Requirements & Permit.

By passing this bill, having all gun dealers obtain a Colorado permit and institute specific measures at the business regarding employees and training is just common-sense. Requiring specific safety measures to deter theft is also critically important. Approximately 18,700 firearms are reported lost or stolen from licensed gun dealers each year, according to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Common-sense laws like this one can ensure that all gun dealers are protecting the public and that gun dealers who ignore the law can be held accountable.

Gun dealer reform should include requiring updated best practices for store security, record keeping, training, and ensuring that gun dealers who violate the law and endanger public safety can be swiftly held accountable. Gun dealers can stop firearms from getting into the wrong hands.

We need to pass each and every bill we can to make our communities safer. Let's join the 15 other states that require all gun dealers to get a state-issued license.

You have the opportunity to make Colorado a safer state to live in. Please vote YES on HB24-1353. Thank you for your time and commitment to improving the safety of our community.