



April 2024

**TO:** House Finance Committee

**RE:** AAUW Support for 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**

16699 E. Kentucky Ave. • Aurora, CO 80017  
303.898.5797  
[suryden25@gmail.com](mailto:suryden25@gmail.com)

*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.*

Dear Members of the Finance Committee,

I write to express my opposition to House Bill 24-1353, "Concerning Requirements to Engage in the Business of Dealing in Firearms, and, in Connection Therein, Establishing a State Firearms Dealer Permit." As a licensed attorney and professional engaged in the firearms industry in Colorado, I have carefully reviewed the proposed legislation and find it presents significant legal and practical concerns that could adversely affect firearms dealers, their employees, and the broader public. My testimony outlines these concerns, grounded in both constitutional protections and considerations of fairness and practicality.

### **Duplication of Federal Regulations and Risk of Federal Preemption**

The bill introduces a state firearms dealer permit system that closely parallels existing federal regulations under the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). This duplication not only imposes unnecessary burdens on firearms dealers but also risks conflict with federal law, which could lead to challenges based on the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

### **Substantial Financial and Operational Burdens**

The requirement for a state permit, coupled with the \$400 fee and potential for annual fee adjustments, places a significant financial burden on dealers, particularly small businesses. Furthermore, the mandate for annual employee background checks and training represents an ongoing operational burden, potentially threatening the viability of these businesses.

### **Unclear Enforcement Standards and Due Process Concerns**

The legislation grants broad discretion to the Department of Revenue to conduct inspections and enforce compliance, raising concerns about arbitrary enforcement. The pathway from a first offense warning to permit revocation on a second offense across a wide range of potential violations lacks clear, objective standards, challenging the principles of due process.

### **Employee Privacy and Employment Rights**

Mandating annual criminal background checks for employees who handle firearms raises issues regarding privacy and potential discrimination. This could conflict with broader state efforts to support the rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals with criminal records into the workforce.

### **Restrictions on Business Operations**

Limiting the sale or transfer of firearms to a dealer's posted business hours restricts the flexibility of firearms dealers to conduct business, particularly at gun shows or other non-traditional venues. This unnecessary restriction hampers the ability of dealers to meet customer needs and adapt to market demands.

## **Potential Conflict with State Constitutional Provisions**

The bill's provisions, by imposing onerous restrictions on firearms dealers, could indirectly infringe on the right to bear arms as protected under Colorado's Constitution. It is essential that any regulation in this domain carefully balances public safety concerns with constitutional rights.

## **Vague and Overbroad Provisions**

Several aspects of the bill, such as the criteria for securing firearms, are vaguely defined or overly broad. This not only creates uncertainty for dealers attempting to comply with the law but also gives excessive discretion to the enforcing agency, potentially leading to inconsistent application.

In conclusion, while the intent behind House Bill 24-1353—to regulate the firearms industry more closely within Colorado—may stem from a desire to enhance public safety, the bill as written poses significant legal, financial, and operational challenges. It threatens the viability of law-abiding firearms dealers, could infringe upon constitutional rights, and duplicates existing federal regulations without clear benefit. I urge the committee to consider these concerns seriously and oppose the passage of House Bill 24-1353.

Sincerely,

Christopher Lee Runyan  
Attorney at Law #50004

April 8, 2024

Members of the Colorado House Finance Committee  
Colorado General Assembly  
200 E Colfax Avenue  
Denver, CO 80203

*Sent via email*

**Re: Support for HB24-1353 (Firearms Dealer Requirements & Permit)**

Dear Members of the Colorado House Finance Committee,

On behalf of the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, I write to express our support for **HB24-1353 (Firearms Dealer Requirements & Permit)**. Now led by former Congresswoman and gun violence survivor, Gabby Giffords, Giffords Law Center has been providing legal and technical assistance in support of gun violence prevention to federal, state, and local legislators nationwide for 30 years. HB24-1353 would enact explicit dealer licensing requirements, provide for routine law enforcement inspection, and set baseline dealer operation standards that will improve safety while reducing thefts and straw purchasing.

**Gun dealer licensing laws can help minimize the spread of illegally trafficked firearms and reduce violent crime.**

Federal Firearm Licensees (“FFLs”) must be monitored to ensure that firearms are not stolen or trafficked. Firearms dealers are a high-value target for criminals, and have often been magnets for break-ins, theft, and destruction of property. A 2004 report by the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of the Inspector General found that between 2004 and 2011, FFLs reported 174,679 firearms missing from their inventories. Many of these guns inevitably end up in criminal hands and have been traced to the commission of lethal crimes. Even one stolen gun can have drastic consequences. For instance, just one gun stolen from a dealer in Wisconsin was subsequently linked to 27 separate shootings in Chicago—two of which were fatal—in the 20 months before it was confiscated.

**Expanded oversight of gun dealers via a licensing system is necessary to ensure that sellers of lethal weapons comply with the law and do not jeopardize public safety.**

While the vast majority of gun dealers operate responsibly, a small and unscrupulous group of them are disproportionately responsible for the hundreds of gun crimes that victimize Americans each and every day. Evidence shows that states with the most gun dealers per capita have 10 times higher rates of guns trafficked to another state and subsequently used in a crime than states with the fewest gun dealers per capita. The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (“ATF”) has also found that dealers and pawnbrokers were associated with the largest number of trafficked guns and concluded that “[Federally licensed gun dealers’] access to large numbers of firearms makes them a particular threat to public safety when they fail to comply with the law.”

**ATF does not have the necessary staff nor resources to sufficiently inspect FFL’s, meaning states must step up.**

Local oversight of gun dealers is necessary because ATF does not have the resources to properly oversee the more than 130,000 federally licensed gun dealers in the U.S. In fact, while ATF aims to inspect each dealer every three years, in 2022, only 9% of dealers were inspected.

Colorado is similarly restrained in its ability to police the almost 3,000 gun dealers currently operating in the state. In 2019, a mere 7.1% of Colorado’s FFL’s were inspected by ATF. HB24-1253 would require on site inspections of a random selection of at least 15% of the state permit holders annually.

**Storage requirements, background checks, reporting requirements and other common sense dealer standards will provide law enforcement with more opportunities to detect illegal gun activity, help prevent theft, and ensure firearms don’t end up in the hands of prohibited persons.**

HB24-1353 would require gun dealers and their employees to go through routine training in order to ensure that they are familiar with state and federal laws, know how to identify and stop straw purchases, and are familiar with how to properly store guns to prevent thefts. Gun store employees often have access to huge inventories of guns and it is a commonsense practice to make sure that the dealer and employees are just as responsible as the buyers.

This bill would also have Colorado join the eight other states (CA, CT, DE, IL, MA, NJ, VA, and WA) that already require employee background checks. Employee background checks have a high rate of voter approval, including, according to one poll, 79% of NRA members and 80% of non-NRA gun owners.

**Dealer ordinances are constitutional and legally defensible.**

The United States Supreme Court stated in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, that the commercial sale of firearms was a presumptively valid area of regulation. In the Supreme Court's most recent case, *Bruen v. New York Pistol and Rifle Association, Inc.*, the Court stated that it was not overruling *Heller*. While the Court did change the method of analysis of gun laws under Second Amendment challenges, gun dealer ordinances will survive such analyses because limitations on the commercial sale of firearms have a longstanding tradition in American law and historical antecedents.

In summation, HB24-1353 enacts common sense measures already employed by responsible dealers across Colorado and nationwide.. Accordingly, we urge you to support the proposed firearm dealer regulation.

Sincerely,



Jessie Ojeda  
Guns & Democracy Attorney Fellow

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## **ABOUT GIFFORDS LAW CENTER**

For 30 years, the legal experts at Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence have been fighting for a safer America by researching, drafting, and defending the laws, policies, and programs proven to save lives from gun violence.



HB24-1353 - Vote NO!Eric Jeffery to: committees.lcs.ga 04/08/2024 02:34 PM

My name is Eric Jeffery

I was born in Denver

I grew up along the front range, Denver, Aurora, Boulder, Golden, Monument, Colorado Springs, and now Elizabeth.

I graduated East High School, just down the road from where we are

I graduated CU Boulder, I am a Buffalo

I raised 4 children here in Colorado

I am a true Colorado Native

I am a Jew

I grew up attending Temple Emmanuel under Rabbi Steven Foster

Israel, October 7th, 2023 – Murder, mayhem, devastation!

This important date is not a historic anomaly. Living in good times should not make us blind to what was or what could be.

As a Jew, I, now more than ever in my life, need the ability to defend myself, my loved ones, and those around me, unable to defend themselves.

For those that say, “that can never happen here,” the Israeli’s thought the same which is why they had strict gun laws, until October 8th

For those that say, “that can never happen here,” I encourage you to remember what FDR did to Japanese citizens in 1942.

For those that say, “that can never happen here,” I encourage you to review the New York States 2021 proposed legislation Assembly Bill A416 that looked to “remove” cases, contacts, and carriers of communicable diseases.

For those that say, “that can never happen here,” I encourage you to look ahead as a future administration may come in and say we want to build internment camps, round up, and deport immigrants (Build the Wall and Deport them All).

Our founding fathers understood the need to empower citizens for self-defense. The plethora of gun laws proposed by this legislature are anathema to what our founding fathers knew, not all Governments can be trusted.

Just because today's government may not round up individuals, we must maintain and follow our founders' intent and allow citizens to easily defend themselves, their loved ones, and those around them unable to defend themselves.

Please stop making it more difficult and more expensive for good people to defend themselves and those around them when evil arrives.

Eric Jeffery  
Elizabeth, CO

**House Finance**

**04/08/2024 01:30 PM**

**HB24-1353 Firearms Dealer Requirements & Permit**

**Typed Text of Testimony Submitted**

<b>Name, Position, Representing</b>	<b>Typed Text of Testimony</b>
Dalton Reid Against themselves	<p>All of this turning of good citizens into felons is easily avoided with properly strict punishments for the commission of crimes with firearms. Why men can rob stores, commit assault, and burglarize homes while armed and not be guaranteed to spend the next 20+ years in jail is beyond me. Instead, you make laws that would give me such treatment for simple administrative mistakes.</p> <p>If you want to lower crime, crack down on people who commit actual violent crimes, and use your numerous daily opportunities to take criminals off of the streets. The only people who complain about El Salvadorian crime policy are brutal gang members.</p>
Odie Tucker Against themselves	<p>Colorado's motto is nothing without providence. I cannot find how HB24-1353 fulfills this motto. This bill unduly places regulation upon the small business person of Colorado while providing nothing to the public. I can only see it as a bold face attempt by the state government to wrestle control away from both county and local governments AND the federal government. These small businesses are already subject to rigorous and effective regulation put in place by the federal government. Bureaucracy does not advance the cause of public safety and this bill amounts to nothing more than added bureaucracy. Additionally, making criminals out of FFL dealers that have nothing but the intent to make an honest living is immoral and unethical.</p> <p>I cannot bring myself to support any elected officials that supports, votes, or writes this legislation. When you vote on this, you are not only putting Coloradoan's jobs in jeopardy, but your own.</p>
Marc Signorello Against themselves	<p>I am urging you to say no to this and all other overstepping gun control bills being considered into the Colorado legislation. These bills are being drafted and supported by two out of touch demographics of people (Denver and Boulder) and do not represent or even remotely understand the remainder of Colorado does not,</p>

	<p>and will not welcome these unconstitutional changes. Changes that will make the average law abiding gun owner felons for arbitrary, easily overstepped, misinterpreted and blindly enforced laws. Criminals will get what they want and defy these laws further, and doing death by 1,000 cuts to your constituents will do nothing but cause a further rift in these already divisive bipartisan politics being pushed in this state. Inanimate parts do not commit these crimes, people who wish to enjoy their 2nd Amendment rights do not commit these crimes, and penalizing them will only make these people despise and stand harder against anything in the future that may be remotely worthy of compromise, unlike these bills being placed before us this year (and many years before).</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration, and please remember that these are real people with families and jobs, not statistics and future felons, that wish to live their lives undisturbed by these threats of felonies in every facet of responsible firearms ownership. They can also vote, and I cannot imagine people that support these sorts of policies will be welcomed with open arms back into office when election time comes.</p>
<p>Derek Adelman Against themselves</p>	<p>You are making it harder for mom and pop stores to make a living. Why do politicians insist on squeezing every dollar they can out of the middle class to fund their unaccountable spending and restrict our right to bear arms as well? Because they can, and the allure of power is too strong and we have nothing but weak people in government today. I am strongly opposed to this bill.</p>
<p>Kenneth Buttrey Against themselves</p>	<p>04/03/2024</p> <p>Please oppose HB-24-1353</p> <p>HB-24-1353 needlessly duplicates the Federal oversight and regulation of firearms dealers by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. Firearms dealers are already subject to strict rules and regulations as well as regular inspections of their businesses and paperwork. Use the funds that would be appropriated to fund this unnecessary bill to fund the crime victims funds that HB24-1349 seeks to fund by taxing law-abiding gun owners for the actions of criminals.</p> <p>Please oppose HB-24-1353 and HB24-1349</p> <p>Thank you Kenneth Buttrey 970-903-1007</p>

	sticklebackranch@yahoo.com
<p>Devin Lorentzen Against themselves</p>	<p>This is yet again another bill trying to make a citizen's ability to legally obtain a firearm even more difficult by making legal gun shops harder to setup and run, which is indirectly infringing on my fundamental rights. This bill absolutely should not be passed. It is already incredibly difficult and expensive to become an FFL and follow all the laws and regulations. This is predatory legislation through and through.</p>
<p>Dennis Chalker Against themselves</p>	<p>The Federal Government already has a strict policy in place through the ATF. This bill HB 24-1353 through the State of CO just adds one more layer of scrutiny and potential harassment. It also adds more requirements on dealers, along with random inspections and severe penalties for violations. ATF has strict policies for Licensed dealers to uphold and follow and does conduct regular inspections. Any of these policies that are broken or violated are dealt with accordingly through the ATF.</p>
<p>Robert Glenn Against Weld County GOP</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</p>

	<p>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.</p> <p>*** VOTE NO ON HB24-1353 ***</p> <p>Robert Glenn 305 Poudre Bay Windsor, CO</p>
<p>Ava Flanell Against themselves</p>	<p>My name is Ava Flanell. I own two FFL's at two separate locations in Colorado and I strongly oppose this bill. To start, this bill is incredibly redundant and duplicates what the current law requires of federal firearms licenses. It is a clear waste of taxpayers' dollars if implemented. With a simple Google search, you can see exactly what the application process is like to qualify for a license to sell firearms. It's a lengthy process and includes a background check conducted by CBI and ATF. The application asks if the applicant has ever had an FFL revoked. If the answer is yes or the background check reveals they have, the application will be denied. During the final stages of obtaining an FFL, ATF makes an appointment with the applicant and interviews them. They inspect where the licensee will be storing their</p>

	<p>firearms to ensure it is secure and go over the process of acquisitions and depositions of firearms. After receiving a license, the license must be updated and there's a fee. Sounds pretty familiar, right?</p> <p>Additionally, the licensee agrees that the ATF can show up unannounced during business hours to conduct an audit. The store I invested in gets audited every year. If ATF finds a discrepancy during the audit, they risk losing their license.</p> <p>As far as employees go, it's illegal for people with a felony to be around guns. Every gun store that I've invested in or owned has done background checks before hiring someone. Additionally, straw purchases are already illegal and if stores sell to a person they believe isn't the buyer, they risk losing their license. FFL's are taken seriously by those that operate them and require painstaking work to ensure compliance with the rules and regulations. For lawmakers to put out an exact replica of requirements we're already fulfilling is quite an insult to us and anyone who pays taxes. Vote no on this redundant and wasteful bill, thank you.</p>
<p>Jennings Cheng Against themselves</p>	<p>No more requirements for FFL. More regulations on democratic politicians who are trying to abolish our 2A rights just so everyone "feels" safe. The requirements are just becoming ridiculous and needs to stop.</p>
<p>John Hutchins Against themselves</p>	<p>Dear Committee.</p> <p>This bill is absolutely ridiculous. It is like the equivalent of trying to fix something when it's not even broken.</p> <p>What this bill does is creates more problems than what we currently have now. Why are we going after the already licensed legal gun shops? Why are you targeting this small businesses? Why not go after actual criminals or create harsher punishment for folks who actively have been caught breaking the law and not target those who went out of there way to go through the system legally to get a license to legally sell firearms. Let's break Down real quick what this bill does.</p> <p>- \$250,000 fee is absurd for a small local business who already has a federal license.</p>

	<p>- Why should the state government be involved in accessory's when any business owner can already sell NON firearms? Are they gonna have to just divide all FFLs into two businesses?? One that will sell firearms and one that will sell NON firearm accessories? Does this mean we have to get Amazon, Walmart, eBay, etc any place that sell parts licensed?? All your creating from this law is a disorganized gray area that's going to require much of a headache than you currently have.</p> <p>- Putting people out of work. You'd be destroying the little man. These unnecessary harsh penalties for small business would utterly be bankrupt. I can't fathom any other state license that is this harsh as this one towards small businesses.</p> <p>All this can be avoided by not going forward with this disaster of a bill. We don't need headache, more jobless people, we have enough of that at the moment. Let's not do this. This is not the right thing to do. You would just be creating a problem rather than solving an issue.</p> <p>Sincerely John Hutchins</p>
<p>Vanette Benesch Against themselves</p>	<p>I am adamantly opposed to this bill as it creates undue hardship on businesses and does nothing to stem the true cause of criminal activity. In addition, this bill is helping to erode my 2nd amendment right as an American. Thank you for your time.</p>
<p>John Hotchkiss Against Red Bear Gun Brokers</p>	<p>Hello and thank for listening to testimony today.</p> <p>I own a small home-based business that sells firearms in the Colorado Springs area. This extra state licensing, for a federally-granted license is not only unnecessary, but not in keeping with a simple Amendment to the Constitution that the right to bear arms "shall not be infringed". This is an infringement, and will only be overturned in the courts.</p> <p>Do not waste our tax dollars - please vote NO on this item.</p>

<p>James Rose Against themselves</p>	<p>I oppose this bill because the only justification for it is to allow the state government to duplicate an effective federal gun shop licensing method for the likely purpose of adding more restrictions and conditions to the operation of such shops. The additional layer of bureaucracy would, i believe, likely be employed to the disadvantage of lawful gun purchasers without providing any improved safety for the public. It would also open the door for the imposition of additional charges for gun purchases, making gun ownership less feasible for lower income persons who live at higher risk to crime.</p>
<p>Greg Trough Against themselves</p>	<p>Holding legal and federally licensed firearm shops and transfer FFLS subject to the failures of law enforcement is wrong. No problem in going after the FFLs that do wrong but why the good ones? It makes it more difficult for small and rural Americans to exercise their 2nd Amendment rights and your bill will be subject to reversal. You are interfering with interstate commerce. My 4th Amendment rights can be violated. FFL holders are being singled out for persecution</p> <p>We are already subject to background and fingerprint verification. The Feds can come in anytime they wish.If you choose to put us out of business, have the courage to stand up and say so</p>
<p>Sam Johnson Against themselves</p>	<p>Asking for a No vote on this.</p>
<p>Laura Thompson Against themselves</p>	<p>Please vote no on this!</p> <p>You are making us all sitting ducks for the criminals.</p> <p>Without the gun shops, we cannot keep our guns serviced nor maintain our skills.</p> <p>You all have protection. We do not. We have to keep ourselves safe.</p>
<p>ERIK KREIDER Against themselves</p>	<p>This is just another anti-gun bill crafted by firearm, history and constitution-illiterates designed to harass citizens who support our constitutional rights and will do nothing to enhance public safety. Federal Firearms Licensees already are adequately regulated by the federal government and need to answer only to it.</p> <p>This is unnecessary redundancy that wastes public funds that are much better allocated to productive legislation.</p> <p>We've had enough inane antigun legislative masturbation.</p>

<p>Raymond Pezzoli Against Colorado firearms association</p>	<p>I am writing to respectfully, but firmly, ask you to stop this bill. This bill will only serve to add more expense to FFLs who already have enough expenses as it is. They also undergo Federal background checks in order to receive an FFL license which should be more than enough. Not only that, but they are subject to ATF inspections as well. All of this should be enough.</p> <p>You are now forcing FFLs to attain additional permits from the state on top of what they current require. Not only will this cost them more time and money, but some will be put out of business due to the added expense. In addition to all of that, requiring state permission to exercise a constitutional right is unconstitutional.</p> <p>None of this will stop crime. Criminals are undeterred by rules and regulations. The only people this will target is law abiding gun owners.</p> <p>I urge you to stop this bill immediately.</p> <p>.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Mr Raymond Pezzoli</p>
<p>Robert Glenn Against Weld County GOP</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.</p> <p>*** VOTE NO ON HB24-1353 ***</p> <p>Robert Glenn 305 Poudre Bay Windsor, CO</p>
<p>Gary Travis Against themselves</p>	<p>Dear Representatives,</p> <p>As a Colorado resident voter, I urge you to vote against HB24-1353. The current federal regulations on Gun Shop owners and employees, provide all the adequate regulations and protections. Colorado</p>

	<p>should not impose additional burdens on these businesses causing reductions in Colorado economy.</p> <p>Gary Travis</p>
<p>John Howard Against themselves</p>	<p>Just stop already. You're doing everything you can to put thousands of good, hard working people out of business in Colorado. Where is your conscience? We haven't done anything wrong yet. If we had, we wouldn't be having this debate. You know this is garbage but you're too arrogant to see that you don't have power. We do. We'll fight to the end. Remember, this is still another way you're violating the 2nd amendment and as you know, the 2nd amendment was written to deal with what you're doing right now. We're ready and we're not afraid of you. Our constitution calls us to be ready. First you'll have to deal with a whole lot of court battles and then you'll have to face the armed American population. We haven't broken the law. We haven't aren't threatening you. You're threatening us.</p>
<p>Leif Sigstedt Against themselves</p>	<p>Vote no on HB24-1353. This bill will only hurt small, local business owners who have made this their occupation. This puts all the expenses on them and causes their business model to become unviable. This will not help fix anything and is just more punishment for the law abiding. Please stop trying to pass bills like this, they are vastly more unpopular than some seem to think and will cause a reckoning come election time if enough of them pass.</p>
<p>Wade Good Against themselves</p>	<p>This bill is bad for business and freedom.</p>
<p>Kathryn Ruud For themselves</p>	<p>I strongly support the passage of this bill. The BATF (whose funding has been repeatedly strangled by the gun lobby at the federal level) simply does not have the resources to ensure that inspections of gun dealerships are done regularly and that dealerships are in compliance with the gun violence prevention laws we have here in CO.</p> <p>I heard on the news this a.m. that 95% of the guns being wielded by gangs in Haiti were acquired in the U.S. A CBS documentary investigation ("Arming Cartels") found that nearly 100% of the guns used by cartels in Mexico are being smuggled in from the U.S. and that Denver is one of the main supplier hubs. These are often military-assault style weapons with high capacity ammunition magazines, coveted by the cartels because their intent is to be sure they outgun Mexican law enforcement authorities. While gun violence rates in Canada are still low compared to the U.S., the crime</p>

	<p>guns are turning up there have mostly been smuggled in from the U.S.</p> <p>Given the scale of the overall epidemic of violence (in the U.S. and in these other countries) and given that CO has over 2200 FFLs, this state licensing and inspection process would go a long way in making sure "our laws are enforced," as the gun lobby repeatedly claims is the #1 solution to firearm misuse.</p> <p>Please vote FOR this bill.</p>
<p>Huey Laugesen Against Colorado State Shooting Association</p>	<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 on behalf of our members across all 64 of Colorado's counties in strong opposition to House Bill 24-1353.</p> <p>This bill is a redundant package of useless red tape that won't accomplish anything other than placing an undue, arbitrary burden on law-abiding firearms merchants.</p> <p>When business is made more difficult for law-abiding gun stores, the only result is a bolstered black market and more guns in the hands of criminals.</p> <p>This bill will put innocent lives and livelihoods at risk.</p> <p>The Colorado State Shooting Association and all of our members urge the members of the House Finance Committee to vote "NO" on this bill.</p>
<p>craig wright Against themselves</p>	<p>This bill serves only to make running a legitimate firearms business more difficult. It has no useful purpose. Please oppose it.</p>
<p>Craig Bauer Against themselves</p>	<p>Hello. To be fast and frank. The second Amendment is not negotiable and disarmament is an act of treason and war against the American People as outlined in the second Amendment justifier of "necessary for the security of the free State". This is not negotiable and all precursor treasonous actions of legislation including federal are acts of treason by the conspiratorial individuals acting outside their constitutional constraints. I recommend all persons who actively pursue this and other Unconstitutional legislation be prosecuted as</p>

	<p>traitors and/conspiirators against constitutional united states people per title 18. United states code, subsection 241 labeled "Conspiracy Against Rights"., and other Laws to punish traitors.You have no constitutional authority to enact any legislation upon firearms sellers at all. You are in violation of the 14th, 5th and second Ammendments. As this is outside your constitutional authority, you have no immunity. You are also in violation of Article 1 of the USA constitution. Its going to be a sad day that an organized court outside of your purview, in abolishment process, is created in Common Law and agents deputized by this court arrest you, put you on trail and hang you in Old Western Style☺. Title 18 ss 241 clearly demonstrates your actions as criminal and felonious. CEASE AND DESIST.</p>
<p>Maxwell Hayes Against themselves</p>	<p>The level of colorado government corruption knows no bounds. While the colorado government floods the state with criminal aliens, terrosit, and babies to molest they work to disarm arm good law abiding gum stores, so the people of america can be killed by criminal aliens. Itssick to know there are colorado residents bragging they have slave labor, while the politicians work to destroy America. The revolution will cleanse the nation of the corrupt politicians</p>
<p>Roger Cook Against themselves</p>	<p>I completely oppose having duplicate rules to complicate the 2nd amendment even further. Firearms dealers already have strict Federal rules to follow and we don't need to complicate this with further red tape and more time and money that people don't have anymore.</p> <p>Roger Cook</p>
<p>Brother Grimes Against themselves</p>	<p>Good Afternoon, This bill creates a state permitting system for already federally regulated firearm license holders. The new permit adds one more layer of scrutiny and potentially state sanctioned harassment of these already highly regulated businesses. HB24-1353 adds additional conditions and requirements on the dealers, along with random inspections and severe penalties for violations. God Bless You</p>
<p>Christopher Budden Against themselves</p>	<p>This bill adds to the requirements businesses must comply with and will add to the cost of doing business. The businesses impacted will be small businesses, which according to the the Governor, are important to the economy of the State of Colorado.</p> <p>As the Federal Government already has numerous requirements for firearms dealers to be able to sell firearms, this bill is redundancy of government over-site for these businesses.</p>

	<p>This bill will require additional State funding to monitor the businesses, funding that will not be covered by the fees businesses will pay. This places an additional burden on our already stressed law enforcement agency funding.</p>
<p>Miguel David Against themselves</p>	<p>I am writing to voice my concern on this bill and get it removed. This does nothing but affect law abiding citizens and gun shops and has nothing to do with stopping criminals and illegal activity. This bill just aims at making it more difficult for citizens to have access and defend themselves. It's as if you want law abiding citizens to not defend themselves but don't even punish criminals. Please stop this attack on our 2A rights!</p>
<p>Phil Baker Against Baker Precision</p>	<p>Dear Committee,</p> <p>I have a small business as a gunsmith and machine shop. This proposed bill will absolutely kill my business and my ability to provide for my family. I do not understand the reasoning behind needing a State permit in addition to my Federal permit. I do not deal in firearm sales directly, but I have a Federal Firearms License to not only protect my business, but to operate within the confines of current law. The fact that this bill requires a business to have an FFL, I see no reason for a State license. It puts a financial burden on all small business owners, and over regulates an already over-regulated industry. Please take into consideration the impact this has on small business owners and our ability to prosper. Over-regulating is not the solution.</p> <p>Best Regards,</p> <p>Phil Baker Baker Precision</p>
<p>Missy Espinoza Against themselves</p>	<p>This is completely unnecessary and unconstitutional. Vote NO. We will be watching.</p>

<p>Ron Franks Against themselves</p>	<p>Please leave legal gun shops alone. Use your Elected position to legislate against criminals who use firearms, Not against legal firearms owners and businesses.</p>
<p>Michelle Gillilan Against themselves</p>	<p>I am urging a no vote from you concerning HB23-1353. My husband and I own and operate a small Firearms Business in this state. We mainly help out our local hunting, sport shooting, and collector community. We are licensed and follow every law in the state, this will make us either close our business or be forced to move it out of state, as it will do to many others. We already have a great working relationship with the ATF and speak with them when we have questions or concerns. This will create an unnecessary burden on the taxpayers of Colorado to recreate a state agency where a federal one already fills the need. As a tax paying citizen and gun owner I am so disappointed in the way we have recently been attacked. We follow every law, pass required background checks, and do all required paperwork to comply and it seems like we are being forced out of the state. I have watched business after business leave the state. I want to stay, and fight for our right to sell guns to the law abiding folks who live here, but as I look at the burdens being placed on us it seems like a losing battle. Please vote against this and let the ATF do the we already pay for.</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>Reedy LASH Against</p>	<p>I oppose HR24-1353, and STRONGLY URGE you all to reconsider why this bill is necessary. Firearms Dealers have to have a Federal License</p>

<p>themselves</p>	<p>(FFL) which requires a background check, interview, and other procedures. There is NO REASON to have firearms dealers have to go through the same procedure at the state level. This is nothing but, "lawful harassment" of already licensed dealers. How does this stop crime, or stop criminals from committing crime, or stop juveniles from getting firearms, or make the public safer, answer, IT DOESN'T. As elected officials DO SOMETHING USEFUL for the state, like making sure the rogue funeral directors are stopped from practicing in CO. What an embarrassment they have been the last few years. Do something proactive a pass laws protecting homeowners from squatters, which is becoming a national problem. Follow FL DeSantis lead and pass a law like Florida's, even NY is considering it as well as several other southeast states. THERE ARE ENOUGH GUN LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN PLACE, ENFORCE THEM, STOP TRYING TO PASS MORE USELESS LAWS THAT DO NOTHING FOR PUBLIC SAFETY.</p> <p>Thanks, Reedy L Lash / USMC Vet and retired Deputy Sheriff</p>
<p>Mark Micono Against themselves</p>	<p>I am against this bill.</p>
<p>Joel Stanczyk Against themselves</p>	<p>As a Democrat I find this bill to be over-the-top. This impacts my ability to exercise my 2nd amendment rights and afford me the ability to hunt. Where will I go to get supplies like a gun to hunt with, ammo to hunt with, or accessories to hunt more safely with if you make it unprofitable for businesses to continue offering these products?</p> <p>I am against this and I will not vote for any party that aligns themselves with this overreaching bill. We do not live in a communist country. Laws like this remove the ability to execute a right and remove our access to freedoms. This is a capitalist country, do not regulate my rights and ability to conduct commerce with these businesses.</p> <p>How long until I'm registering my house framing business and finger printing my employees? How long until a maid service has to register with the state? You're creating an authoritarian state in Colorado. This will lead to businesses leaving. The cost of doing business has to be below a certain point for it to be worth doing. This is too likely to raise the cost of business above that.</p>

	Remove this bill from consideration now!
<p>Karen Chapman For themselves</p>	<p>I am submitting this written testimony to strongly support passage of HB24-1353. This bill is carefully crafted legislation to regulate and supervise Colorado firearms dealers.</p> <p>There is no existing Colorado regulation. Existing Federal regulation is woefully underfunded, inadequate and not tailored to the needs of our state. Failure to properly regulate important and impactful businesses can have severe consequences, as we all have learned recently from the failure to properly regulate and supervise funeral homes.</p> <p>Sellers of firearms, ammunition and related accessories are in a business that literally deals weapons of war designed only to kill. Such businesses should be subject to the most stringent of regulatory schemes yet they now operate in a void. Such businesses in Colorado should be subject to inspection for compliance with the unique Colorado laws now applicable to such inherently dangerous products.</p> <p>This legislation establishes minimum requirements applicable to firearms merchants and ensures that their employees are subject to recurring background checks. It includes training requirements and obligations to report firearm thefts and unlawful attempts to purchase firearms.</p> <p>The \$400 fee is more than reasonable. However, even without any fee, the Legislature should invest in a regulatory structure that will reduce the risk of improper gun sales that could result in injury or death. This is common sense at a time when gun deaths are the leading cause of deaths for children in America.</p> <p>Please pass HB24-1353.</p>
<p>Jeremy Cedotal Against themselves</p>	<p>I find this is another form of infringement of our 2A rights. I am strongly against the HB24-1353 because it will run a lot of gun shops</p>

	<p>out of business. This is their way to make money in order to pay their bills and feed their family.</p> <p>How would you like it if someone took your paycheck away, how would you feed your family? Another attempt for the government to take away our rights as law abiding citizens to obtain and own Arms that was giving to us in our second amendment.</p>
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