

SB 159 Oppose

Good Afternoon Committee Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members. Thank you for allowing me to testify today.

I am opposed to this bill for many reasons, most of which you have probably already heard here today.

This Bill if enacted would create a registry although voluntary, is still unconstitutional and is contrary to the Statutory Gun Registry Prohibitions.

The phrase below requires the firearm dealer to speculate on whether a person is on a do not sell list which could cause an otherwise eligible person from being able to purchase a firearm. *“prohibiting a dealer or other person from selling, renting, loaning, or transferring a firearm to a purchaser, lessee, borrower, or transferee who the dealer or other person knows or **has reason to believe** is registered on the registry”*

Belief is not fact. The denial of anyone's' 2nd Amendment rights is a serious matter and should not be at the speculation of a retail clerk or person working behind the gun counter at the FFL Dealership.

The logistics for creating this do not sell list are not clear in this legislation. Are taxpayers expected to foot the bill for the creation of the department within the MSP to monitor this list? The MSP is already working short staffed. This bill would further encumber our Troopers with ministrative activities and preclude them from performing on more imminent activities.

Furthermore, if a person has the wherewithal to voluntarily enter their name on a do not sell list, without coercion, they should be competent enough to determine that they can simply choose to not go to the FFL to purchase a firearm. Authorities already have the ability to “Emergency Petition” a person in need of immediate mental assistance and an individual can certainly voluntarily seek help through multiple channels already in place.

For these reasons I urge you to respond with an UNFAVORABLE Report.

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