



Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

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MICHAEL REESE
SHERIFF

Exemplary service for a safe, livable community

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September 29, 2017

The Honorable Ron Wyden
911 NE 11th Ave. #630
Portland OR 97232

Dear Senator Wyden,

The Multnomah County Sheriffs Office (MCSO), joins public safety agencies around the nation in a common cause – to ensure laws are in place to further responsible gun ownership and reduce gun violence in our communities. Therefore, I oppose the Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) Act (HR 3668), as well as the Hearing Protection Act (HR 367/S 59), all of which deregulate firearm silencers.

As a law enforcement professional, I see firsthand how much damage gun violence does in communities. Every year, hundreds of lives are forever altered due to gun violence in Oregon. This includes law enforcement professionals – our friends and colleagues – killed or injured by gunfire.

Working at the local level, I believe local public safety is doing its part to prevent further gun violence. MCSO's comprehensive gun violence reduction strategy includes education and prevention efforts, background check failure and trace investigation collaboration, and responsive dispossession missions. We need the help of Congress in advancing responsible gun laws that keep firearms out of dangerous hands and give law enforcement members important tools that aid in investigations and apprehension of criminals.

Legislation that removes firearm silencers from existing regulation is a step in the wrong direction. Additionally, these measures stand to undermine laws regarding the transportation of firearms across state lines and the importation of dangerous weapons into the country. This is bad policy disguised as recreational necessity.

Let me be clear, I support the rights of responsible gun owners. I can appreciate the balance that must be struck when crafting law that protect those rights while taking every step necessary to help keep our communities safe from gun violence. Deregulation of silencers does not contribute to this balance. Thank you for doing your part to end senseless gun violence. Thank you for your opposition to the Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) Act (HR 3668), as well as the Hearing Protection Act (HR 367/S 59).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Reese".

Michael Reese
SHERIFF