

HB2379 Opponent Written Only Testimony

Chairman Kessler and Members of the Committee,

I oppose HB2379 because, quite frankly, it makes no sense. The idea that individuals would voluntarily place themselves on a government list to be denied their Second Amendment rights is unrealistic. If someone is truly in crisis and believes they shouldn't own a firearm, there are already legal options available, including temporarily transferring their firearms to a trusted individual. This bill does nothing to prevent impulsive acts and creates unnecessary bureaucracy.

Beyond the impracticality, the bill raises serious concerns about fraud and abuse. It allows healthcare providers—who are not trained in firearm laws or identity verification—to submit forms on behalf of individuals. What prevents someone from presenting a fake ID and getting themselves (or someone else) placed on the list? The lack of safeguards opens the door to potential coercion and mistakes that could wrongfully strip someone of their rights.

Additionally, the privacy risks are significant. This bill creates a government database of people who have chosen to waive their constitutional rights. While the bill claims confidentiality, once this information is in the system, it's out of the individual's control. There's no guarantee it won't be misused or accessed improperly.

Finally, this bill places an unnecessary burden on healthcare providers, forcing them into a role they should not have. Firearm ownership is not a healthcare issue, and doctors should not be expected to manage paperwork related to someone's constitutional rights.

HB 2379 is a misguided attempt to address a problem that it won't solve. If the goal is to help people in crisis, this bill is the wrong approach. I urge the committee to reject it.

Respectfully submitted,

Kari Sue
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