

# SUPPORT SB 1657

Senator Don Harmon & Representative Kathleen Willis

## THE GUN DEALER LICENSING ACT



ILLINOIS  
GUN VIOLENCE  
PREVENTION  
COALITION

The Gun Dealer Licensing Act gives Illinois the ability to encourage better business practices among gun dealers and hold corrupt dealers accountable. It will help curb a major source of illegally trafficked firearms from entering our communities.

### THE PROBLEM

- Gun Dealers are the most critical link between gun manufacturers and the public. **They're also one of the largest sources of illegally trafficked firearms in the nation.**<sup>1</sup>
- Federal law requires anyone engaged in the business of dealing firearms to have a license from ATF. However, loopholes in federal law enable dealers to engage in illegal business practices and fly under the radar. ATF lacks the necessary resources and legal authority to go after these negligent gun dealers.
- Chicago recovers 6 times as many guns per capita as New York City, and 1.5x as many guns per capita as Los Angeles. Both New York State and California have enacted State Gun Dealer Regulations.<sup>2</sup>
- Recent research indicates that 40% of guns used in crimes between 2013 and 2016 came from Illinois.<sup>3</sup>

### THE SOLUTION

The Gun Dealer Licensing Act gives Illinois the ability to encourage better business practices and hold corrupt dealers accountable. It will help curb a major source of illegally trafficked firearms from entering our communities by enforcing:

- **Background Checks for Licensees & Employees:** Gun store employees often have access to huge inventories of guns and it is a common sense practice to require that dealers and their employees are as responsible as the buyers.
- **Transparency and Accountability:** Upon licensure, dealers would have their places of business open for inspection by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) and law enforcement during hours of operation.
- **Training:** The legislation would require training to ensure that dealers and their employees know how to conduct background checks, identify and stop straw purchases, and properly store guns to prevent thefts.
- **Security Requirements to Protect Our Communities:** industrywide best practices by requiring video security for brick and mortar locations and requiring that a copy of every purchaser's FOID or ID card be kept on record.
- **Safe Business Location Requirements:** The law would prevent the business of any new licensee from being within 1000 feet of any school or being in violation of any local ordinance.

### HB 4725 / SB 337, AMENDMENT 1

- The Gun Dealer License will be valid for 5 years with a cost not to exceed \$1000.
- Prohibits video surveillance in bathrooms.
- Delays implementation of a video surveillance system at permanent physical locations open to the public until January 1, 2021.

Have other states or jurisdictions enacted similar legislation?

**YES! 26 states**

have enacted some sort of dealer regulation to fill gaps in federal firearms laws.



**Increased regulation of dealers to prevent straw purchases has been associated with an 64% decrease in the number of guns from those dealers used in crimes.**<sup>4</sup>



ABJ Community Services  
Action for a Better Tomorrow - Southern Suburbs  
Action for a Better Tomorrow - Northern Suburbs  
AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
All Saints Episcopal Church - Chicago  
Alls Saints Episcopal Church - Western Springs  
Am Yisrael, Northfield  
American Nurses Association of Illinois  
American Promise  
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago  
Annunciation of Our Lady Episcopal Church - Lake Villa  
Berkeley - Hillside Presbyterian Church  
Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence  
Catholic Charities, Rev. Msgr. Michael M. Boland, Pres. & CEO  
Center for American Progress  
Chicago Area Peace Action  
Chicago Board of Rabbis  
Chicago Parks Foundation  
Chicago Survivors  
Chicago Women Take Action  
Chicagoland Brady Chapter  
Christ Episcopal Church - Winnetka  
Church of the Holy Spirit (Episcopal) - Lake Forest  
Community of Congregations  
Community Presbyterian Church - Claredon Hills  
Community Presbyterian Church - Broadview  
Community Renewal Society  
Compassionate Care Network  
Council of Religious Leaders of Greater Metropolitan Church  
Countryside Unitarian Church  
Elgin Cooperative Ministry  
Emanuel Congregation - Chicago, Rabbi Michael Zedek  
Emanuel Lutheran, Rockford  
Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, Jeffrey D. Lee, Bishop of Chicago  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Metropolitan Chicago Synod, Bishop Wayne N. Miller  
Faith Community of St. Sabina  
Faith Lutheran Church - Glen Ellyn  
First Presbyterian Church - Deerfield  
First Presbyterian Church - Homewood  
First Prebyterian Church - LaGrange  
First United Church of Oak Park  
First United Methodist Church  
Flossmoor Community Church  
Fourth Presbyterian Church - Chicago  
G-PAC  
Generation Progress  
Giffords  
Good Shephard Presbyterian Church - Chicago  
Grace Seeds Ministry  
Greater Institutional AME Church  
Gun Responsibility Advocates  
Gun Violence Prevention Action Committee  
Gun Violence Prevention Task Force @ First United Methodist Church at Chicago Temple  
Hustle Mommies  
Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics  
Illinois Conference of Churches  
Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence  
Illinois Justice Project  
Illinois Society of Advanced Practice Nurses  
Illinois Tenth Congressional Democrats  
Increase the Peace Englewood  
Indivisible Illinois  
Ivanhoe Congregational Church, UCC - Mundelein  
The Jeremy Skullark Foundation  
Jewish Council on Urban Affairs

Jewish Deconstructionist Congregation (JRC)  
Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago  
Joint Action Committee for Political Affairs (JAC PAC)  
Kenilworth Union Presbyterian Church  
Kids Off the Block  
Lake Forest Friends Meeting  
Lake Street Church of Evanston  
Lakeview Presbyterian Church  
League of Women Voters of Illinois  
Live Free Chicago  
Loyola University Medical Center  
Mennonite Central Committee  
Moms Demand Action for Gunsense in America  
Moms Rising  
National Council of Jewish Women Chicago North Shore  
National Gun Victims Action Council  
National Youth Advocate Program  
National Youth Art Program  
Northwest Suburbs Organizing for Action  
Open Communities  
Or Tikvah, Grayslake  
Organizing Catholics for Justice  
Organizing for Action Chicago North Chapter  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Parents for Peace and Justice  
Peace & Justice Committee Episcopal Diocese of Chicago  
Peace & Justice Committee - St. Giles, Oak Park  
Peace & Justice Committee of St. Edmund Catholic Church - Oak Park  
Peaceful Communities  
People for a Safer Society  
Planned Parenthood  
Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation  
Presbyterian Church of Barrington  
Presbytery of Chicago  
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church - Woodbridge  
Progressive Community Church - Chicago  
Pullman Presbyterian Church - Chicago  
Purpose Over Pain  
Quinn Chapel AME Church - Chicago  
Seabury Western Theological Seminary  
Second Unitarian Church of Chicago  
Solidarity Sundays-Logan Square  
St. Augustine's Episcopal Church - Wilmette  
St. Felicitas Catholic Church - Chicago  
St. Francis Xavier Parish  
St. James Cathedral Episcopal Church Chicago  
St. James the Less Episcopal Church - Northfield  
St. John Anglican  
St. Joseph Anglican Church - Springfield  
St. Luke Presbyterian Church - Downers Grove  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church - Barrington Hills  
St. Nicholas Catholic Church - Evanston  
St. Titus One Youth Anti-Violence & Mentoring Program  
St. Vincent De Paul Presbyterian Church - Chicago  
Southminter Presbyterian Church - Glen Ellyn  
Strengthening Chicago's Youth  
Switch Lanes  
Temple Beth Israel - Skokie  
The Black Star Project  
UCAN  
United Church of Christ  
United Church of Rogers Park  
United Methodist Church  
Women Enuff, Inc.  
Xperience Church of Englewood

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, US Department of Treasury, *Following the Gun: Enforcing Federal Laws Against Firearms Traffickers ix-x* (June 2000).

<sup>2</sup> City of Chicago, *Gun Trace Report 2017*, page 12

<sup>3</sup> City of Chicago, *Gun Trace Report 2017*, Page 3

<sup>4</sup> Daniel Webster et al, "Preventing the Diversions of Guns to Criminals through Effective Firearm Sales Laws" in *Reducing Gun Violence in America: Informing Policy with Evidence and Analysis*, Baltimore: The John Hopkins University Press (2013), 109