

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.**¹
- 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.²
- Recent research indicates that 40% of guns used in crimes between 2013 and 2016 came from Illinois.³

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.

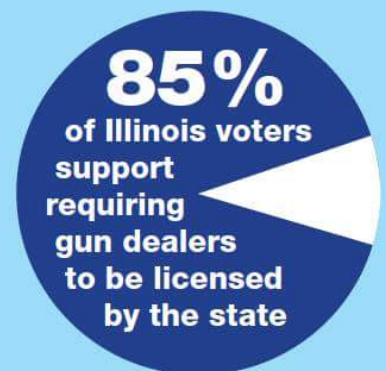
HB 4725 / SB 333, AMENDMENT 2

- 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.**⁴