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Oregon Senate Cracks Down on Ghost Guns

SALEM, Ore - Today, Senate Democrats passed <u>HB 2005</u>, making Oregon the 9th state in the nation to ban ghost guns. Ghost guns are unserialized and undetectable, making them the gun of choice for gun traffickers, violent criminals, and people legally prohibited from buying firearms.

"Ghost guns are dangerous to our communities' safety and are notoriously the weapon of choice for people who commit crimes. As a law enforcement officer, my goal every shift was to make it home safely at the end. As a legislator, my goal is to make sure all of our law enforcement officers are able to make it home safely at the end of theirs. House Bill 2005 keeps our peace officers and the neighborhoods they serve safer," said **Senator James Manning Jr** (**D - Eugene**), who carried the bill on the floor.

HB 2005 prohibits the sale, manufacturing, or importing of ghost guns. People convicted of possession of an untraceable firearm would face a misdemeanor on the first offense, which carries up to 364 days in jail, a \$6,250, or both. Second offenses and beyond would carry up to 10 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both.

"This legislation will save lives and prevent crime. Our streets, schools, grocery stores, malls, movie theaters – our families will be safer because these protections are in place," said **Senator Floyd Prozanski (D - Springfield & Eugene)**.

Ghost guns are the fastest-growing gun safety problem facing our country, and the number of ghost guns recovered by law enforcement in the US has increased at an alarming rate, rising 398% from 2016 to 2020, according to Everytown.

"I know the fear and the anger of friends and loved ones that have been victims of gun violence or experienced a scary situation involving a firearm," said **Senator Janeen Sollman (D - Hillsboro)**, a co-sponsor of the legislation. "Everyone has the right to live free from fear."

"As a young person who has been in school during this new era of mass shootings, I can personally attest that guns are a threat to our children's physical and mental health," said **Senator Winsvey Campos (D - Aloha)**, the youngest member ever elected to the Oregon Senate. "HB 2005 will keep Oregon's young people alive."

HB 2005 will now go to the House of Representatives for a concurrence vote. If passed, it will head to the Governor for her approval.

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