



March 6, 2024

Chairman Rick Girdler
Kentucky State Senate
Senate Veterans, Military Affairs and Public Protections Committee
702 Capital Avenue
Frankfort, KY 40601

Re: House Bill 357; Second Amendment Privacy Act

Position: Support

Dear Chairman Girdler and Members of the Senate Veterans, Military Affairs and Public Protections Committee,

As a lifelong Kentuckian and on behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, we write to respectfully express our support for House Bill 357 which stands to protect hunters and recreational shooters from having their purchases tracked or halted by financial institutions when purchasing firearms and ammunition.

Founded in 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) is the informed authority across outdoor issues and serves as the primary conduit for influencing public policy. Working with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), CSF gives a voice to hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and trappers on Capitol Hill and throughout state capitols advocating on vital outdoor issues that are the backbone of our nation's conservation legacy.

Hunters and recreational shooters are the backbone of the "user pays – public benefits" structure of the American System of Conservation Funding, as manufacturers pay a self-imposed excise tax on their firearm and ammunition purchases. This excise tax is then returned to the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) for the purpose of managing Kentucky's fish and wildlife resources.

Protecting the personal information of sportsmen and women is paramount to the continued success of the time-honored outdoor traditions that have long been enjoyed by Kentuckians. By prohibiting financial institutions from distinguishing firearm retailers from other general or

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sporting-goods retailers House Bill 357 ensures that hunters may continue to lawfully purchase the sporting equipment needed to partake in the outdoor traditions that have stood as societal pillars in Kentucky for generations, while simultaneously providing the funds necessary for the KDFWR to carry out its mission.

Without this important consumer protection, hunters and recreational shooters in Kentucky could be subject to discrimination by financial or anti-sportsmen organizations, which would likely deter participation in hunting and the shooting sports and decrease critical conservation funding. We respectfully encourage you to support House Bill 357 to protect the privacy of Kentucky hunters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Conner Barker".

Conner Barker
Coordinator, Southeastern States
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