



Attn: Honorable Members of the Veterans and Public Safety Committee
Re: SB 148: Ohio Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act
Date: November 14, 2023
Position: Support

Honorable Members of the Veterans and Public Safety Committee,

I write to you on behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation in support of Senate Bill 148, the Ohio Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act, which stands to protect Ohioan hunters and recreational shooters from being tracked or halted by financial institutions when purchasing firearms and ammunition. Hunters and recreational shooters are the backbone of the American System of Conservation Funding, as manufacturers pay a self-imposed excise tax on their firearm and ammunition purchases, which is then returned to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the purpose of managing the state's storied fish and wildlife resources. I respectfully urge the members of this Committee to support the passage of this legislation.

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.

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 Ohioans. By prohibiting financial institutions from distinguishing firearm retailers from other general or sporting-goods retailers, as well as prohibiting the existence of a list or registry of privately owned firearms in the State, SB 148 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 Ohio for generations, while simultaneously providing the funds necessary for the DNR to carry out its mission.

Without this important consumer protection, hunters and recreational shooters in Ohio could be subject to discrimination by financial or anti-sportsmen organizations, which would likely deter participation and decrease critical conservation funding. I respectfully request that the members of this Committee support the passage of Senate Bill 148 and protect the privacy of Ohio hunters.

Sincerely,

Robert Matthews
Senior Coordinator, Great Lakes States
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
rmatthews@congressionalsportsmen.org | 517-210-2890

Your Inside Connection to Outdoor Legislation