

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 2558

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: April 1, 2021 8:00 AM

Brent Doty

Self, Operations Director

Robinson, TX

Companies actively working to subvert the Second Amendment should face consequences for their actions. If they willingly and knowingly choose to do this, they should be responsible for their choice and Texas should ensure that consequences result and no state activity encourages their behavior.

Zakare Waddell

Self, Production Manager

Bonham, TX

I support this bill. If it becomes law it will stop the funneling of tax payer money into organizations whose only goal is to strip rights from tax payers. Or, you can look at it as the ceasing of government spending on partisan propaganda.

Ernest Angelo

Self

Midland, TX

I strongly support this bill and thank Rep. Capriglione for presenting it. Discrimination against the firearm and or ammunition industries is an indirect attack on the 2nd Amendment. The anti 2nd Amendment gang is always looking for ways to promote their agenda and this is one of them. No Texas funds should be allowed to support them.

Ronald Moon, Mr

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

Thank you for blacklisting companies from state funding for those who discriminate against my right to protect myself and my family with lethal force under drastic conditions.
Your work is much appreciated.

RTM

James Mandl

Self

San Antonio, TX

I fully support this bill. Any organization that restricts the constitutional rights of Texas citizens should not benefit from the citizen's tax dollars in any way, shape, fashion, or form including any subcontractors of the contract holder.

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Harold Waters

Self

Houston, TX

Please support this bill. It is an injustice to use a citizens tax money to oppose that citizen and/or try to remove or impair the citizens rights.

Michael Biello

Self

Katy, TX

I would like to strongly encourage you to vote yes on HB2558. This bill must be signed into law to protect Texans against persecution by the federal government for exercising our constitutional rights.

Chris Duncan

self

Austin, TX

Please support this bill.

Chris Freeman

Self/Shipping Operator

Jefferson, TX

I support this bill.

Tax dollars should not go to companies that discriminate against gun owners or gun-related businesses.

Rhonda Freeman

Self/Biller

Jefferson, TX

I support this bill.

Tax dollars should not go to companies that discriminate against gun owners or gun-related businesses.

Michael Lugo

Self/License and Permit Specialist with the Texas Department of Public Safety

EL PASO, TX

Support HB2558. It will prohibit government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges. This applies to contracts of over \$100,000 that are made with companies with at least 10 full-time employees and that are paid wholly or partly from taxpayer funds, and is a response to companies that regularly discriminate against gun owners or gun-related businesses.

Jerry Adams

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

self natural gas measurement technician

Gardendale, TX

We believe this bill needs to be supported by any member of the house or senate that claims to be pro 2nd amendment. We are tired of Texas politicians including Gov. Abbott claiming Texas is a state that protects the 2nd amendment and the people of this state have to fight to get bills related to protecting out constitutional rights passed.

Maritza Muguira

self

HELOTES, TX

This bill needs to pass to keep tax dollars away from anti-gun companies. Our tax dollars should not be used to take away our natural rights!

Gabriel Gaitan

self, SHSU graduate student

Huntsville, TX

Good afternoon Representative Capriglione,

I am Gabriel Gaitan, I am currently a graduate student studying Homeland Security Studies at Sam Houston State University for two years. Today, as your constituent, I am speaking to you regarding my SUPPORT of HB 2558. Every day, we hear several companies prohibit firearm or ammunition conglomerates because of their quotes on "responsible for mass shootings", this is just discriminating gun owners and destroys accountability by recklessly blaming gun owners and firearm/ammunition corporations instead of the criminals who are the ones responsible for committing a crime. HB 2558, seeks to change that. This bill would:

- Prohibits government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges.
- Applies to contracts of over \$100,000 that are made with companies with at least 10 full-time employees and that are paid wholly or partly from taxpayer funds.
- This is a response to companies that regularly discriminate against gun owners or gun-related businesses.

We must stop turning law abiding gun owners and firearm/ammunition industries into scapegoats by companies who blame them, by association, for indirectly causing a traumatic event or other circumstance. This is why me and as well as the citizens of Texas who support our right to keep and bear arms support HB 2558. Thank you and have a great day, I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Gaitan

Ian Kress

Myself. Engineer.

Nassau Bay, TX

I would like to support HB 2558. The right to keep and bear arms is enshrined in the Constitution, and exercise of this right, by purchase, carry, or manufacture of firearms should not be grounds for discrimination by private companies.

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Recently we have seen banks and other financial intuitions refusing to do business with gun manufactures, unless they submit to a series of policy changes that are not in the best interest of those companies. I find such boycotts by one business against another, to try to force the implementation of policy changes bullying, and frankly, un-American. The way to change public policy is through the legislative process. As long as a business segment is following all laws, they should not be black listed, or boycotted by other businesses. I'm not a fan of the abortion industry, but I would not support banks refusing to do business with them either.

This bill would prohibit boycotting companies from doing business with the State. If they wish to be "selective" in their business, then our state should return the favor.

Please support HB 2558.

Thank you.

Ron Farace

Self

Kingwood, TX

Hello. I am writing in support of HB 2558. Discrimination and cancel culture has run rampant in our great country. There is no room for this in Texas and certainly our Texas Government should not be engaged in facilitating it. This cancel culture works off emotions which are energized by an uninformed media and big money donors who seek to write the narrative by telling lies to the American public. With respect to gun rights this takes the form of companies being led to believe that "guns are bad" and then adopting policies that discriminate against gun related companies. HB 2558 keeps our hard-earned tax dollars away from such discriminating companies by prohibiting Texas from contracting with them. If you believe discrimination and political bullying is bad, please vote in favor of HB 2558. Do you really want companies to be able to discriminate and governments to give them tax money to do so? Even if you yourself believe that "guns are bad", next time you could find that it is some other group of people being discriminated against...one that you may hold dear.

Von Long, Mr.

retired /self

Katy, TX

I am writing in support of H.B. 2558. This bill prohibits government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges.

This bill applies to contracts of over \$100,000 that are made with companies with at least 10 full-time employees and that are paid wholly or partly from taxpayer funds.

Companies that discriminate against gun-owners or gun related businesses would cost Texas jobs and money. Exercise of 2A rights should not be a basis for discrimination.

ANTHONY Listi

self, Data Analyst

Allen, TX

I support. No taxpayer dollars should go to companies that discriminate against gun owners and gun businesses.

Chris Edmiston

Self

Austin, TX

I SUPPORT HB-2558.

Tax-payer funds should not be used to support businesses that discriminate against companies that support our constitutionally guaranteed rights.

While I do support this bill, I would like to see it clarified. Sec 2274.002 a) sounds as though it could be interpreted as only applying to a company that has 10+ employees or only applying to a company that has 10+ employees that are paid via the contract (or tax-payer funds via some means). I think that the intention is the former, 10+ employees regardless of how they're paid, meaning that it does not apply to small businesses. In either case, I think the wording could be clarified.

Matthew Pappas

Self/GOA Texas

Lewisville, TX

I support this bill. The United States Constitution protects the rights of all citizens, and no public tax money collected from those citizens should be used to fund any business which seeks to limit those rights and freedoms. Whether those businesses are actively working against the 2nd Amendment or lobbying against its protections, they should get no contracts awarded them unless they can support the US Constitution. Thank you

Leonard Elbon

self

Magnolia, TX

I support this bill. As a taxpayer I don't think my tax dollars should go to companies that work to strip me of my constitutional rights.

Shane Bertram

Self / Writer

Humble, TX

I SUPPORT HB 2558. The Second Amendment is paramount to the wellbeing of the Republic and her citizens. It is the duty of government officials to maintain and protect the rights of their people, so why should the government be rewarding with lucrative contracts companies who are enemies of their citizen's freedoms? They shouldn't, and passing this bill will do much to make sure that only those companies that have the best interests of Texans and their freedoms at heart will receive contracts that are paid for by those very same citizen's tax dollars.

Santiago Diaz, Mr

Self

Seabrook, TX

I support this bill and ask for your support as well. The firearms industry is a valuable, productive member of our state.

Ted Ramsay

Self, Mfg Planner at Lockheed Martin

Weatherford, TX

I support this bill. No need to do business with companies that don't share our principals and views on firearms.

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Richard Kennedy, Mr
Self, Land Surveyor
Arlington, TX

Please SUPPORT HB 2558. This a protection from discrimination that is too often seen in todays political climate.

Jessie Teddlie
Self
Whitt, TX

We agree with HB 1500 and HB 2558. Texas must maintain our freedoms as stated in the Constitution of Texas and America!

Jessie Teddlie
Self
Whitt, TX

I am for the rights of citizens to own guns and have ammuniton for those guns and companies operating in Texas should not discriminate!

I am against any state regulations that prevents me from giving or donating or willing our possessions, including guns, to the family member or person WE want to by our right of ownership! The state or federal government does not have the right to take my possessions! If I give to someone and they commit a crime, it would then be for a court to determine if I aided and/or abetted!

I am against "red flag" laws as they open a door for any person to be "reported" by any individual who may "just have a grudge" against another person! There already is a way to ask that a person be evaluated as "a danger to him/herself or others" without these types of laws! I have had personal experiences with "grudge" people and they just destroy lives unjustly!

Joseph Bravo, Mr
Self
Katy, TX

Texas has always stood for freedom and supported our constitution. Our rights should be preserved, therefore I urge you to support and pass this bill.

Clayton Hergert
Self, Owner, ATX Precision
CEDAR PARK, TX

I am the owner and lead instructor for ATX Precision, a small business providing firearms training to private citizens and military/law enforcement personnel. I served 20 years in military Special Operations before returning back to Texas. As a small business, I have been directly impacted by credit card processors discriminating against my company simply because we are in the firearms industry: Paypal, Venmo, and Square specifically. I urge you to support this bill to protect small businesses like ATX Precision from this over reach of power.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,
Clayton Hergert

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

ATX Precision
757.575.3013

Marilyn Zigmond
Self/Retired
Wimberley, TX

HB 2558 by Rep Capriglione forbids state governmental agencies from doing business with companies/contractors etc who discriminate against firearms entities or firearm trade associations. We support this bill!

Billy Yant
self
Boerne, TX

This an excellent bill and I fully support, sponsor and promote it. This bill will prevent the "back-door" approach of taking away our 2nd amendment right by tyrants in the democrat/socialist parties that would deprive Texans of their 2nd amendment right by putting gun and ammunition manufactures out of business by means of frivolous law suits, prohibitive taxes or other contrived penalties. This bill is essential to protect us Texans from the ever present majority of Marxists/democrats in the current USA Executive and Congressional branches of government.

Ronald Olson
Ronald Olson
SAN ANTONIO, TX

I support HB 2558 100%. Our State needs to back all Bills supporting the 2nd Amendment right to own and carry Firearms. The attacks by the democrats cannot and should not be allowed to remove our freedoms given to us by our forefathers. Attacks against business in the manufacturing and sale of firearms or ammunitions cannot be allowed in the State of Texas.

William Deck
Motorcycle Parts Ltd inc
Cedar Creek, TX

Please vote for this bill.

Robert Haygood
STAR H RANCH LLC
TOPSEY/COPPERAS COVE, TX

please support

Margaretta Parma
myself - housewife
San Antonio, TX

Greetings,

I support bills HB 1550, HB 2558, and HB 2622.

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Please do all you can to pass these bills.

Thank you,
Margaretta Parma

Jim Newman
self
Grapevine, TX

I support this bill for the following:

- 1) This bill will stop the discrimination against companies that support our 2nd Amendment rights or are in the firearms business. What this bill say's is no company shall be awarded a contract in the state of Texas if they discrimination against a company that is in or related to firearms or the support of, shall receive and tax's payers fund.
- 2) This bill is stopping discrimination against companies that support their rights to earn a living or be awarded contract, borrow money, or credit that they may need to conduct business.

Robert Tezyk, Mr
Self
Midlothian, TX

I support this bill to forbid agencies from doing business with companies/contractors etc who discriminate against firearms entities or firearm trade associations. Government agencies should not interfere with the second amendment rights.

Ted Moore
Self
north richland hills, TX

I urge Texas lawmakers to support this bill which prohibits government entities from entering contracts with any company that will discriminate against gun or ammunition related business, or shooting ranges.

Our tax dollars should not be used against us by supporting and helping anti gun businesses establish and thrive.

Lee Kuhn
Self
Tomball, TX

No government or tax payer funds should be used to support any companies that discriminates against gun owners or gun related businesses.

Thomas Gordon
Self
Temple, TX

Hi my name is Thomas Gordon
I support HB 2558 by Capriglione
Thank you, Thomas

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

William Fitch

Self/Retired

Kerrville, TX

Texas is a freedom loving state, as are the Texans who live here. I SUPPORT this bill to prevent discrimination against firearms and ammunition industries.

Sherri Shadle

Self

Aspermont, TX

This bill needs to pass. Our tax dollars do NOT need to go to companies who discriminate against law abiding citizens who own or operate businesses in the firearms industry. These state contracts need to go to people or companies who do NOT discriminate in any way, shape, form, or fashion.

Edgar Garcia

Self

Fort Worth, TX

We need to protect any and all 2a rights to keep Texas free from discrimination, against all 2a supporters.

Christopher Pyle

Self - Geologist

Kemah, TX

I support this bill.

It is the job of the government to protect our rights from those who want to infringe upon them.

Teresa Cleghorn, Mrs

Self

San Antonio, TX

Why on earth would we allow taxpayer money to be spent at places that discriminate against industries that provide for a constitutionally-protected right? I support HB2558.

Charis Calvert

self-disabled

Dripping Springs, TX

I support the passage of this bill. No one should be able to discriminate due to political differences.

James Britton

self

Greenville, TX

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

I oppose this bill, it is needless cluttering. We have more than enough laws, thanks. James

Ricco Ramos

Self, Real Estate Investor

Houston, TX

I SUPPORT this bill. No Texan tax dollars should be spent on anti-2nd amendment rights.

steve walton

retired.

granbury, TX

it is a very good idea.

John English

Self

Greenville, TX

As a Texan I support this bill.

Duff Starrett

Texas Resident and Native

Dickinson, TX

I ask that our tax dollars not be used to fund politically motivated Businesses and NGO's, we are seeing way too much of politicians funneling money to organizations with partisan goals. Regardless of who is in office partisan organizations and businesses should not be funded with public money. Those who support these organizations need to fund them directly with their own money, and no return favors from any public money. Not everything needs to be funded with tax dollars and taxpayers should not be forced to pay for policy they don't support. They can set up a go fund me page,
Thank you, Duff Starrett

Cread Dotson

self student

Bryan, TX

I strongly support HB 2558. Large and powerful corporations should not be able to indirectly inhibit citizens from exercising their rights. Many corporations have more power over our lives than we would like to admit and they should not be able to impose their anti-firearm morality onto people.
Thank you, Cread Dotson.

Michael Ingraham

Self

Belton, TX

as a Citizen I feel strongly that no one should be discriminated against for believing in the 2nd Amendment Additionally as a Tax Payer I believe that any organization attempting to limit or sway opinions against any taxpayer should not be receiving

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

monetary support from my State. If a company has the right to attempt to use their position for those purposes it should be on their dime, not mine or any other tax payer.

Christie Mariotto

Self

Sumner, TX

The state should not do business with companies that discriminate against firearms or ammunition manufacturers or companies, support HB 2558.

Sammy Brown

Self

Pottsboro, TX

I support this bill 100% and urge you to vote in favor of it. Any company that works to weaken the 2nd amendment should be considered an enemy of the people of Texas and should not benefit from our tax dollars.

Mike Hoecherl

Mike's Guns

katy, TX

Please support this bill

Michael Maza

Self

Volente, TX

I sincerely hope that our State representatives will stand behind this bill to insure that no governmental agency, funded by the tax dollars of the State's residents, will engage in trade or contracts with entities that seek to undermine the ability of the firearms industry to conduct proper and lawful business. These companies support our enumerated right under the Second Amendment and have been the target of unscrupulous political and financial tactics that seek to impede their ability to operate and provide a much needed service. Our State Representatives should stand behind their constituents and refuse relations with any company that does not support our Constitutional rights.

Andres Aguilar

self

Houston, TX

I'm for the passing of this bill, companies should not discriminate against gun industries

Daniel Blahuta, Mr

Self, Retired

Whitesboro, TX

I don't think any company that discriminates against firearms or ammunition industries should be allowed to conduct business with the state.

Michael Sisson
self - Electrical Engineer
Arlington, TX

I would like to voice my strong support for this bill. I find it offensive that my tax dollars would be used to contract with a company that does not support the Second Amendment. Any company that is to provide goods and services to the State of Texas should affirm, in writing that they do not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges.

Jack Weaver
Self
Celina, TX

I support this bill. The 2nd Amendment is a constitutional right, and there should NOT be any discrimination against rights. Ask yourself: would you let state resources and government entities contract with companies who discriminate against freedom of speech or religion? No. Same should apply the 2nd amendment, just as it would if it were the 1st amendment.

jeff chan
self
MCKINNEY, TX

I STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill.
It is time we Texans stop giving money to companies that discriminate against gun owners and actively
Work to hinder and outright eliminate our right to self-defense.

Jess Halpin
Self construction
Arlington, TX

Support. As my Representative I ask that you would support this bill. The kind of boycotting and the amount of political bias we've been witnessing should not be allowed one way or the other.

Unknown Snake
The great state of Texas
El Paso, TX

Hypocritical bastards. Try to come and take it snakes ??

Jeannie Hassell
Self/Retired
Zapata, TX

This bill would prohibit government entities from contracting with a company (to provide goods and services) if the proposed contract did not INCLUDE affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges. This would apply to contracts of over \$100,000 that are made with companies with at least 10 full-time employees and that are paid wholly or partly from taxpayer funds.

This bill is a direct response to companies that regularly discriminate against gun owners or gun-related businesses, therefore I

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

strongly urge you to support HB 2558.

Richard Jones, Mr

Self

Abilene, TX

As a concerned voter and citizen of Texas, I ask for your approval of this bill HB 2558.

Sincerely

Richard Jones

Bruce Abernathy

Retired

Dallas, TX

I support thus bill for passage, unchanged!

Charles Erwin

Self

Carrollton, TX

Please support legislation to keep taxpayer dollars from supporting companies that discriminate against firearms-related businesses.

Tim DePalma

self

AUBREY, TX

I am in favor of prohibiting government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges.

Companies that discriminate in any way should not obtain lucrative or any government contracts!

Eric Schafer

Self - Educator

Hewitt, TX

Taxpayer dollars should not go to companies which discriminate against people who are not committing crimes. Public money should not be used to cancel people or businesses. Please do not allow our tax dollars to go to those businesses. Support this bill.

George Clement

self

Austin, TX

I like this bill a lot. Firearm and ammunition companies are only seeking the same services as others receive. It's unfair and has an agenda behind it.

Frank Krawiec

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Self

Justin, TX

Please support

Robert Sensabaugh, Mr

Self

Arlington, TX

I strongly support this bill. Discrimination for any reason is wrong. There should be consequences for businesses that do discriminate against other businesses.

Eugene Lux

Self

Fredericksburg, TX

Please support this bill

John Conner

Self/Adjunct professor

Houston, TX

Honorable Committee:

I support this bill! A house divided cannot stand, as the Bible tells us. Let's not set up conflict of interest between business entities with antagonistic agendas in Texas.

Sincerely,
John Conner

RICHARD JENKINS

ORANGE GROVE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

HOUSTON, TX

On behalf of all Texas 2A Rights Supporters & Voters, I ask that you, please, vote to pass this bill.

Mal Staples

Self, retired from the Oilfield in 2021

Spring, TX

My wife and I support House Bill 2558, and want to see it passed.

We support the 2nd Amendment, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights for Americans and Texans.

Please let us know if we can do anything to further passage of this Bill.

Thank you for your support.

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Sincerely, Mal and Regina Staples

James Lenaburg

Self - Retired

KELLER, TX

This bill should be supported and passed to protect the firearms industries and ammunition industries in Texas from companies and or contractors that discriminate against those entities. I urge you to support it and send it to the Governor.

Arthur Cameron

self, Retired

Tyler, TX

I Support this bill.

Businesses should not be rewarded with taxpayer funds when they discriminate against gun owners or gun-related businesses. People and businesses should be free to have their own beliefs, but taxpayers should not be required to enable behavior detrimental to our safety and economy.

Mark Junker

Self - Semiconductor Equipment Eng.

Coppell, TX

If a company feels that discrimination is appropriate, then they must be held accountable for their actions.

Richard Hanson

Self

EL PASO, TX

Why should taxpayers spend money with companies who discriminate based upon personal views? They are free to do as they wish, and so are we.

Gary Johnston

Self

Houston, TX

Please vote in favor of this bill as it will reinforce the freedom and safety of all law-abiding Texans. Thank you!

Bruce Wiswell

self, Retired Federal Engineer

McKinney, TX

Support this bill. The state should not do business with anyone that discriminates against our second amendment rights.

Scott Walston

Self

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Uvalde, TX

I support this bill. Our state government should not be doing business with companies who wantonly oppose our rights to bear arms or purchase ammunition. Such companies have no business to receive state monies when they oppose standing lawful rights of our people.

Charles Seay

Self

Dallas, TX

I vigorously support this bill.

Jeb Brown, Mr

Self

Boerne, TX

I fully support keeping tax dollars away from businesses that enforce, practice and proliferate anti-freedom views & and practices. This bill needs to pass. Thanks!

Charles Guest

Self / Technical Service

KATY, TX

As a law abiding gun owner living in Texas and a legal LTC holder in the State of Texas, I fully support this bill.

Michael Fossum

Self, engineer

Austin, TX

I support this bill, and ask that you do too. The right to keep and bear arms is a fundamental right, and people or businesses cannot exercise that right if they cannot conduct business due to discrimination by businesses that provide critical services such as banking, Firearm owners, businesses, ammunition manufacturers should be protected by law from such discrimination. Please vote yes on HB 2558. Thank you.

Michael Stom

Self / IT

Wylie, TX

I support HB 2558. There is no room for discrimination in society. It is unfortunate that in todays culture many companies are choosing to do just that toward anything related to firearms. I am proud to see Texas take this first step towards preventing a very ugly consequence of the woke culture.

Thank You

Rick Briscoe, Legislative Director

Open Carry Texas

San Antonio, TX

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

I am Rick Briscoe, Legislative Director of Open Carry Texas. I submit the following remarks in support of the HB 2558.

We believe that the state should discriminate directly or indirectly against companies which are engaged in lawful manufacture, transportation and sale of goods or services related thereto or industry trade associations and therefore should not do so indirectly by doing business with companies which engage in such discriminatory practices. It is the choice of the citizens of Texas to decide what businesses they shall patronize with their purchases and neither the right or nor duty of the state to limit those choices.

I was unable to attend today's hearing due to a medical appointment. Thank you for your consideration of the foregoing remarks.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Briscoe

David Berleth

Self Retired

Houston, TX

I support this bill. Prohibits government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges. Applies to contracts of over \$100,000.00 that are made with companies with at least 10 full time employees and that are wholly or partly from taxpayer funds.

This is a response to companies that regularly discriminate against gun owners or gun related businesses.

Again, I support this bill.

Beryl Cotton

Self Engineer retired

Lexington, TX

I support this bill.

Mark Browning

Self/IT Analyst

Frisco, TX

I strongly support this HB 2558 by Capriglione. Keeping tax dollars away from anti-gun companies is essential to ensuring the success of gun related businesses, which includes gun ranges, as these are essential for safety training courses, as well as education in self-defense to protect our families, and the people around us. My tax dollars have no business going towards promoting/supporting anti-gun companies, or any anti-gun groups and their hypocritical legislation. These anti-gun proponents think it's perfectly fine in their minds to be surrounded by a wall of armed soldiers, while we have an open border here in Texas. Need I say more? "Shall not be infringed." Thank you for your support.

Melisha Corbitt

Self

Austin, TX

I am in favor of HB 2558.

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

I do not believe that companies should have the ability to regularly discriminate against gun owners or gun-related businesses.

This bill prohibits government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges.

For these reasons I am in favor of HB 2558.

John Stiles

Self

Dallas, TX

Hi, my name name is John Stiles, I represent myself, and I am in support of HB 2558. I feel as a citizen of the State of Texas and as strong supporter of the 2nd Amendment, government agencies of the state should not discriminate those entities in the firearm industry, its suppliers, it contractors, and those who are in the firearms trade associations. To me such discrimination to is Un-American and not very Texan. This too is common sense and I support the passage of HB 2558.

BRIAN PAPKE

Self

CEDAR CREEK, TX

I support HB 2558, and put simply, if a company can not support the freedoms afforded to me under our Constitution, they do not deserve my of my tax dollars.

Doris Spraggins

Self

Fredericksburg, TX

I support HB 2558

Nathan Rodriguez, Mr.

Self

Lubbock, TX

I SUPPORT this bill.

I do not want taxpayers money to go to Anti-Gun Companies that discriminate against gun owners and gun-related businesses.

Candido Bernabe II, Mr.

Self

Cedar Park, TX

The 2nd Amendment is part of the very foundation of these United States. To have American companies discriminate against Americans who actively exercise their God given, Constitutional rights is UN-American. It flies in the face of all who came before who risked their very lives to preserve freedom in this country. Having arms is what allowed a people oppressed by their own government to break away and be free. It is not only a right but a responsibility. If some Americans choose not to take up such a responsibility, that is their right, however it is not within the right of such people to shame or punish people for exercising their rights under the constitution.

Jo Foley
Self N/A
Henderson, TX

Owning guns is our right and many Texas citizens do own guns. It would be wrong for our state government to use tax payer money to contract services with any company that discriminates against the very people or companies that provides the money to pay for those services. I support HB 2558 and hope that you will too. This is about protection our way of life, our freedoms and our rights.

Charles Vahrenkamp
Myself, retired
Belton, TX

I support HB 2558. It is very sad that we occasionally have to pass laws that force government agencies and their partners to behave themselves. I could probably use the entire 3000-character limit to discuss this subject and HB 2558, but I won't do that. I will simply state that discrimination against an individual or a company is wrong regardless of the reason or motivation. Period. End of discussion.

AARON BROOKS
self
RICHMOND, TX

In order to protect our rights we can't let the federal government attack them through the financial system. I support HB 2558.

Patsy Boatright
Self/homemaker
Maryneal, TX

I strongly support hb 2558

Stephen Estes
self
Eustace, TX

I urge our representatives to support this bill and pass it for the good of all Texans.

Jade Naaman
Self
Round Rock, TX

Discriminating against businesses that reinforce a right is wrong. I STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill.

Nick Naul
Self
Frisco, TX

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Why would Texas want to partner with those that would deny our right to self defense. We always have options to work with those that share our values and support our Constitutional rights. We need to affirm this position today. Please support HB 2558. Thank you.

Catharine Wall

Self; Unemployed/Retired Teacher

Austin, TX

I oppose HB 2558. Keep partisan politics--itself a form of "discrimat[ion]"--out of state contracts.

Michelle Mostert

Self

Dripping Springs, TX

I SUPPORT HB-2558. Thank you.

David Flores

First Love Christian Church

San Antonio, TX

Honorable House of Representatives,

I am writing to you to express my support for HB 2558. As a proud Texans, I support the right to keep and bear arms, a right protected by our Constitution. More and more we have seen in the last few months, the overreach of the federal government to assure that the State of Texas becomes less secure. The efforts to defund our police, the opening of our borders, and now they are trying to take away one of the most precious God's given rights; self-defense. Now, since they can not come and physically disarm us all, they are coming for the companies that produce weapons and ammunition through financial institutions. And this will cause for prices on those items to go up. The Elite in Washington DC will not be affected by it, they have their Bodyguards 24x7. Please think about the low-income families living in poor neighborhoods with high crime. Think about the safety of our places of worship, our daycares, single moms using weapons to protect themselves and their children. Please, use common sense when voting on these issues. God bless you.

george doby, mr

self

cleburne, TX

with the current trend to punish legitimate businesses (right now it's firearms manufacturere) but guanteed that while they are first theywon't be the last, this bill is a good first step to protecting the business community. i urge y'all to pass this bill out of committee

Jonathan Findley

Self, software engineer

Pasadena, TX

I support HB2558.

Zoila Vega-Marchena, Dr

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

self, engineer

Austin, TX

I support this bill

Lewis Locke

self

Baytown, TX, TX

I support this bill because I do not believe the government should support businesses that discriminate against lawful commerce.

Valerie Adame

Self Sole Proprietor Photographer

Liberty, TX

I fully support this bill. Our state should not reward companies or other governmental agencies that try to have a negative affect on my God given 2nd amendment right to own a firearm, purchase ammunition, service, buy or sell a firearm (within the law) or use my firearm for it's intended purpose.

As always, thank you for your service in our Texas Congress and thank you for taking the time to read my comments.

Blessings,
Valerie Adame

Nathan Fleer, Dr.

Self PhD Chemist

Katy, TX

I support HB2558. We should not discriminate or tell people they are not allowed to exist in any case whatsoever.

Marianne Paulsen

self - retired

BELLVILLE, TX

Our tax dollars should NOT be used to support, in any way, a business that discriminates against Texans who want to exercise their God-given rights. Nor should our tax dollars be used to support any business that discriminates against another business that is exercising their God-given rights, such as firearms or ammunition industries. If businesses want to discriminate, they shouldn't be bolstered by the use of the tax money that the very people they are discriminating against is coming from.

Christopher Butler

Independent

Bedford, TX

In favor of. Our tax dollars should go to companies that are not blatantly against our basic rights. If a company can not be politically neutral then they do not deserve to get government contracts.

Charles Wannall, Mr

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Self, retired

Houston, TX

Please support HB 2558 (Prohibits government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges.)

There is no legitimate reason on Earth for providing tax dollars by any avenue to companies that discriminate against legitimate business patronized by citizens exercising a Constitutionally protected right. I do not want one tax dollar going into companies that are trying to prevent me from exercising my right to own a firearm or to carry it with me.

Thank you.

CRW
Houston

William Butcher

self

Bryan, TX

I support HB2558.

One of the few jobs of the government is to protect the rights of the people. When a government entity does business with an entity that discriminates against gun-related companies or other entities that facilitate our rights, they are allowing for infringements on our rights. With other forms of discrimination, the government can and does require proof from contractors that they will comply with anti-discrimination laws and regulations. A person's right to keep and bear arms is something that should be just as protected.

Harry Weekley

Self

Alpine, TX

I totally support this bill.

gerald dietz

GOA

Plano, TX

Please support the 2nd amendment

Ann Moire

Self

Alpine, TX

I support this bill to not have our tax dollars used to infringe on our 2nd amendment rights. Please, support this bill.

Robert White

Self

Selma, TX

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Good afternoon, please support this bill so that companies are unable to discriminate against the firearms community. This Bill would prohibit government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges. Not providing contracts to a company because they are associated with the firearms industry is discriminatory and should not be allowed. Thank you for your support and your time.

Dan White

Andrew Perez

Self and self employed

Weslaco, TX

I support this bill. Gun ownership is away of life here in Texas. Companies that don't agree should not be help by our great state. Discrimination will not be tolerated.

Harry Weekley

Self

Alpine, TX

I DO NOT want ANY of my tax dollars going to businesses who oppose my gun rights. I support this bill and ask that you do the same. Thank you.

Barry McFarland

Self, VP Environmental Health and Safety

Spring, TX

Support HB 2558

Cancel culture is fascism. Companies that discriminate against legally allowed businesses because they do business with or produce firearms, accessories or other firearm related services. The State should not contract with companies that discriminate against any legal business venture.

Karen Reeves

Self

Ben Wheeler, TX

Our tax dollars should never go to companies that discriminate against firearms or ammo.

Allison Winter

self

Spring, TX

Allison Winter, 31 Day Lily Place, Spring 77381. I am FOR HB 2558. I am representing self.

I support HB 2558. In the state of Texas, we should not have contracts with companies which discriminate against firearm or ammunition industries. The majority of Texans support responsible gun ownership with much needed ammunition! Why would we want to do business with companies that discriminate against what Texan's value? I support prohibiting doing business with such companies.

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

Gregory Clayton
Self
San Marcos, TX

I support this bill. Keep my tax dollars away from companies that don't support the Second Amendment. If a company discriminates against gun-related companies and ranges they should get no tax dollars.

Teri Horne
Self/ OCT:WOMEN
Quitman, TX

My name is Teri Horne and I live in Wood County, and I Support this bill.

David s
self - retired
Huntsville, TX

No tax dollars should be allowed to pay companies that discriminate against any business or industry that provides materials sources to consumers exercising their 2nd Amendment right.

Terry Frazier
self-employed
Tyler, TX

[Support HB 2558] As a registered Texas voter, firearms trainer, FFL holder and gunsmith I fully support HB 2558.

The State of Texas has no business using tax dollars taken from law-abiding gun owners and spending them with companies which willfully deprive, or attempt to deprive, gun owners of their rights. Publicly funded contracts, services, companies and businesses have an obligation to support *all* legal, law-abiding businesses and pursuits. It is not up to firms or individuals taking taxpayer dollars to pass judgement on who or what among the law-abiding they will serve.

I hereby support the withholding of all government contracts, funds, and remunerations for those who willfully engage in discrimination against firearms owners, firearms-related business, and firearms-related services.

Mark Combs
Self
Frisco, TX

I support this bill, Thanks Mark Combs

Isaac Johnston
Self
Groesbeck, TX

I am for HB2558

Teri Horne
Self/ OCT:WOMEN
Quitman, TX

My name is Teri Horne and I live in Wood County. I Support this bill hb 2558. The state should not be entered in contract with business/ companies that discriminate against ammunition/ firearm companies or consumers unless it includes an affirmation that the company will not discriminate against firearm/ ammunition industries nor consumers.

William Bennett
Self - Director Network Modeling and Analytics
Wylie, TX

I am a Texas resident and 2nd Amendment supporter. I believe the it is critical for citizens to have the ability to defend themselves in all situations. Our 2nd Amendment rights are critical to the protection of our freedom and our personal safety as citizens of the United States.

Our 2nd Amendment rights are being threatened by politicians at the federal level through proposed legislation that would severely restrict or eliminate our rights to engage in sales of our personal property or to own certain tools to protect ourselves. Our rights are also being threatened by organizations and companies who are supporting those politicians who would restrict our rights. I believe that it is critical that we as Texans stand up in support of our 2nd Amendment rights. By refusing to support monetarily organizations that don't support our rights we can send a message to individuals who would try to impede our rights. This legislation does just that and therefore I support this legislation and I would encourage you to do the same. Thank you.

Murray Miller
Self
San Antonio, TX

I support this bill in that tax dollars and contracts need to include that company will not discriminate against firearm or ammunition industry

Daniel Blahuta, Mr
Self, Retired
Whitesboro, TX

Companies that discriminate against firearm or ammunition industries should not be allowed to procure state contracts.

Cathy Jaster
self, retired
Georgetown, TX

I strongly support HB 2558. The state should NOT engage in contracts with companies that discriminate against our RIGHTS, including discriminating against firearm and ammunition industries. This discrimination includes written, unwritten policies, guidance, directives or practices.

Melissa Butcher
Self
Bryan, TX

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

I support HB2558.

One of the few jobs of the government is to protect the rights of the people. When a government entity does business with an entity that discriminates against gun-related companies or other entities that facilitate our rights, they are allowing for infringements on our rights. With other forms of discrimination, the government can and does require proof from contractors that they will comply with anti-discrimination laws and regulations. A person's right to keep and bear arms is something that should be just as protected.

William Hitt, Pastor

self, Retired Pastor, Retired Navy Commanding Officer

The Woodlands, TX

Discrimination for a political agenda is contrary to the American way, as our founders established! We should allow business to flourish or fail by what they offer, not because of of political agenda! If transactions and businesses are legal, they should be allowed to exist with all the support of other companies, including funding, without the political ax to grind! Non-discrimination laws require that we treat all people equally. The same is true for our businesses!

Violeta Donner, Mrs

Self

Montgomery, TX

I Support this bill. My taxes should not be given entities that discriminate against gun owners. It is our inalienable right to protect ourselves

ronald kirkpatrick

self/310 degrees inc.. and good shop automotive

duncanville, TX

As we have experienced in recent events, the government does not have the personnel or effective management plans to respond to those in need. what we have also witnessed is how ineffective law enforcement, including the military is at responding to those who are in imminent danger from lawless individuals or groups. knowing this, it makes no sense to take away the only means that law abiding citizens have to defend their god given, and constitutionally given right to defend their lives, the lives of their family, friends, neighbors, and their livelihood. As we know, criminals do not care if they are breaking the law, that is why they are called criminals. and as we see in places like Chicago, criminals do not care about breaking any gun laws either. i believe the real meaning and purpose of the 2nd amendment, is for the citizens of this great country to be able to take up arms against their own government and military. in the event that like our forefathers, the founders of these United States of America, we need to rise up and overthrow a tyrannous and corrupt government. Why on earth would we want to discriminate against or alienate the companies or individuals that provide us the means by which to defend ourselves. I would think we should encourage and give preference to companies that provide these tools we need to defend our lives and freedom. We should also require that all companies doing business in Texas be American owned and employee American workers.

Ronald Myers

Self/transportation mgr

Abilene, TX

I urge you to support HB 2558! Using tax dollars to restrict pro gun contracts should be illegal. No one would treat the 1st Amendment like this!!

Lisa D

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

GOA TX

Dallas, TX

I SUPPORT this bill and expect TX representatives to protect the taxpayers from being bullied by companies who willfully oppose the constitution and infringe upon our 2nd Amendment rights and use our tax dollars to do the same.

David Wylie

Self

ARGYLE, TX

I am David Wylie, a member of the State Republican Executive Committee of the Republican Party of Texas from Senate District 12, and I live in Argyle Texas. I am representing myself.

I am speaking in support of HB 2558 today.

This bill will help to protect firearm entities and firearm trade associations in Texas against discrimination. I have always been against discrimination of any type and firearm entities and firearm trade associations have been singled out way too often simply due to their association with firearms. We need this bill to be law to protect our firearm entities and firearm trade associations.

Please approve this bill so that it can be heard by the full House.

Thank you

David Wylie

RPT SREC SD12

POBox 1110

Argyle TX

817 247 2237

David Elliot, Mr.

Self

San Antonio, TX

I support HB 2558

This bill is needed because there are some businesses that discriminate against lawful firearm commerce. By not allowing lawful commerce, these businesses are actively violating the 2nd Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. This action is the equivalent of "No Blacks Allowed" that was prevalent last century. Discrimination in any form is abhorrent and should not be tolerated. My only objection with this bill is that the contract threshold is set too high. It should be closer to \$20,000.

Sherry Barnes

Self retired pharmacist

Whitehouse, TX

I SUPPORT this bill to avoid discrimination against companies that regularly discriminate against gun related companies and ranges

Allison Heyward

Self

Schertz, TX

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

I support this bill because I'm tired of companies trying to may law abiding gun owners the enemy because we want to use our 2nd Amendment rights. I like the fact that will prohibit government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges. This should be for contracts of over \$100,000 that are made with companies with at least 10 full-time employees and that are paid wholly or partly from taxpayer funds.

Ferrando Heyward

Self

Schertz, TX

I support this bill because i prohibits government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges.

Jonathan Heyward

Self

Schertz, TX

I support this bill because it will prohibit government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges.

Craig Andress

Self

Houston, TX

I support this bill because it prohibits government entities from contracting with a company to provide goods and services unless the contract includes affirmations that the company does not and will not discriminate against gun-related companies and ranges.

Julie Lucky

Self business owner

Hickory Creek, TX

It is important to choose wisely who to acquire contracts with regarding companies that discriminate against firearm and ammunition industries. It eliminates possible snags for Texas and its citizens.

Patricia Todd

Self retired nurse

Whitehouse, TX

I support this bill so there is no discrimination against gun related companies when contracts or business is being considered

Deborah Avellano, Mrs.

Self

Corinth, TX

Chairman and Members of the House State Affairs,

Printed on: May 4, 2021 2:00 PM

I, Deborah Avellano, of Corinth, Texas (SD-12, HD-64), representing myself, address you in Support of HB 2558, prohibiting state contracts with companies that discriminate against firearm or ammunition industries. We want to keep Tax Dollars away from Anti-Gun Companies.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Avellano

Mark Randol
self
Austin, TX

I support this bill.

Organizations should stay in their lane and not interfere with the practice of self-defense rights. If they choose to do so, they can do it on their own dime and not the Texas tax payer.