

The Honorable Jim Jordan Chairman House Judiciary Committee 2056 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Jamie Raskin Ranking Member House Judiciary Committee 2242 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C 20515

Chairman Jordan and Ranking Member Raskin,

Founded in 1974, Brady works across Congress, courts, and communities, uniting gun owners and non-gun owners alike, to take action, not sides, and end America's gun violence epidemic. Our organization today carries the name of Jim and Sarah Brady. As you know, Jim was shot and severely injured in the assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan. As victims of gun violence and life-long gun owners, Jim and Sarah dedicated the rest of their lives to passing federal legislation requiring background checks for gun sales. Brady continues to uphold Jim and Sarah's legacy by uniting Americans from coast to coast, red and blue, young and old, liberal and conservative, to combat the epidemic of gun violence.

As the House Committee on Judiciary will be considering the Federal Law Enforcement Officer Service Weapon Purchase Act, I write to share Brady's deep concern and opposition to this legislation. This bill, as introduced, directs the General Services Administration to establish a program under which a current or former federal law enforcement officer may purchase any retired firearm, aside from machine guns, from the agency that issued the firearm to the officer at salvage value and without a background check.

The Federal Law Enforcement Officer Service Weapon Purchase Act allows current and former officers to purchase any surplus firearm. While the bill excludes machine guns from purchase eligibility, federal agencies employ a plethora of firearms and accessories for various uses, including assault weapons, sniper rifles, and various firearms and accessories that are regulated as firearms covered by the National Firearms Act (NFA), including short-barreled rifles, grenade launchers, and silencers, which could all be made available to unregulated civilian circulation under this bill.

Under the legislation, both serving and retired Federal law enforcement officers would be eligible to purchase retired law enforcement firearms. Allowing retired Federal law enforcement officers, who are no longer subject to the ongoing scrutiny of an active law enforcement officer, to likewise purchase a firearm or accessory that is regulated as a firearm without a background check, including those covered by the NFA, is incredibly dangerous as it would expand the loophole for civilian purchase of firearms, grenade launchers, and silencers without a background check.

The bill also creates a system where taxpayers subsidize these firearms purchases and would create an incentive for individuals to purchase firearms well below fair market price for potential resale. As fair market value already accounts for the age and condition of the firearm, there is no need to further devalue the firearm purchase price below that.

As such, Brady opposes the Federal Law Enforcement Officer Service Weapon Purchase Act and urges Members to vote against reporting it to the House Floor when it comes up for a vote.

Best, Mark

Mark A. Collins

Director, Federal Policy Brady: United Against Gun Violence <u>bradyunited.org</u>