



## Colorado District Attorneys' Council

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Representative Mike Weismann – Chair  
Representative Leslie Herod – Vice- Chair  
House Judiciary Committee Members

Written Testimony on behalf of the Colorado District Attorneys' Council – Provided by  
Tom Raynes, Executive Director

### **SUPPORT for HB 20-1152 – Rep. Liston Penalty for Weapons Possession Offender**

HB 1152 offers an immediate opportunity to reduce gun violence by more vigorously applying existing felony violations. No convicted felon may own or possess a gun. Section 1 of the bill requires that any prior felon (already convicted of one felony) who is then also convicted of Possession of a Weapon by a Prior Offender for the **2<sup>nd</sup> time** – making the person a **3x felon** – go to prison and **NOT** be probation eligible. In 2019 at least 3,780 convicted felons tried to buy a gun in Colorado. It is my understanding that Section 2 of the bill will be eliminated by amendment.

If Colorado's existing gun laws are not more seriously enforced, convicted felons and others seeking to do harm to others will ignore them. These offenders must be treated more aggressively. This bill merely advocates meaningful punishment for those who ignore existing law related to responsible and lawful gun ownership and use.