



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1730</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>General Laws</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>AMY DECLUE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 9:45 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-440-9000</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI STATE PUBLIC ADVOCACY</b>		TITLE: <b>STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>PO BOX 1535</b>			
CITY: <b>O'FALLON</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63366</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>CHELSIE CREPS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 9:05 AM</b>
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**I am in support of this bill.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DEE ANN DUCOTE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 8:43 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARY HOFMEISTER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 2:34 AM</b>	
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Helping the hunting and firearms community. I support the use of.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MICHAEL WESTEN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/17/2026 10:38 PM</b>
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**I SUPPORT HB 1730!!**

**Ideally, I'd like to see firearm suppressors completely deregulated.**

**Even though HB 1730 does not achieve this, it does seem like it's a step in the right direction.**

**How many mass shootings have involved the shooter using a suppressor??**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUSAN MYERS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 2:09 PM</b>	
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**I support the bill.**

**Susan Myers, Missouri State Director - Women for Gun Rights**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KORTNIE HUDDLESTON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 11:16 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I am in strong opposition to House Bill 1730. This legislation is a dangerous and misguided attempt to prioritize the interests of gun accessory manufacturers over the safety of Missourians.

While the bill's title focuses on "firearm suppressors," its contents represent a radical assault on public safety and the very principle of federal supremacy. The most alarming provision is Section 571.935, which blatantly attempts to nullify federal law. It declares that any suppressor manufactured in Missouri using "basic materials" is exempt from all federal regulations, including registration and background checks required by the National Firearms Act.

This is not only constitutionally suspect, inviting costly and inevitable litigation that taxpayers will fund, but it is also incredibly dangerous. Silencers, or suppressors, are not merely accessories. They make it significantly harder for witnesses and law enforcement to pinpoint the location of gunfire, endangering first responders and the public. By removing these weapons from federal tracking and oversight, this bill creates a black market for untraceable devices that could easily fall into the wrong hands, including those prohibited from owning firearms altogether.

Section 571.940 compounds this problem by prohibiting state and local law enforcement from cooperating with federal authorities to enforce these very laws. It ties the hands of our sheriffs and police, telling them they cannot assist in stopping the flow of unregulated, dangerous items. This does not make us safer; it creates chaos and undermines the partnerships that keep our communities secure.

Proponents may frame this as a "Second Amendment" or "state sovereignty" issue, but it is neither. The Second Amendment has never been interpreted as a blanket right to possess any weapon without any regulation. Our nation has a long history of responsible federal oversight of particularly dangerous items like machine guns and silencers. This bill is not about protecting the rights of law-abiding gun owners. It is about creating a legal loophole designed to nullify laws that have been on the books for nearly a century.

Missouri should be focused on common-sense solutions to reduce gun violence, not on passing bills that invite federal litigation and create new public safety risks. We should be strengthening our laws to keep guns out of the hands of criminals, not carving out special exemptions for weapon accessories that serve no purpose other than to make a dangerous event quieter.

I urge you to vote "No" on HB 1730. It is a reckless piece of legislation that puts our communities at

**risk and wastes taxpayer dollars on an unconstitutional crusade.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>LAURA BURKHARDT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 9:50 PM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MICHAEL DREYER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 11:15 PM</b>	

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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH BERRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/17/2026 8:37 PM</b>	

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**HB 1730 attempts to exempt firearm suppressors manufactured and retained in Missouri from federal regulation and prohibits state and local officials from enforcing applicable federal law.**

**This structure is constitutionally indefensible.**

**First, the Supremacy Clause (U.S. Const. art. VI) makes federal law controlling where Congress has acted within its enumerated powers. Federal regulation of suppressors under the National Firearms Act and related statutes rests on well-established Commerce Clause authority. A state statute cannot nullify federal law by declaring an item “not subject” to it.**

**Second, Section 571.935(2) expressly declares federal law inapplicable to certain suppressors. That is a textbook nullification theory repeatedly rejected by federal courts.**

**Third, Section 571.940 penalizes local entities for enforcing federal law and authorizes mandamus actions to compel noncooperation. While anti-commandeering doctrine prevents the federal government from requiring state enforcement, it does not permit a state to obstruct or punish voluntary compliance with valid federal law. This provision invites immediate preemption litigation.**

**Fourth, mandatory dismissal of pending prosecutions for suppressor possession may create equal protection and uniformity challenges depending on posture and application.**

**This bill is not a policy dispute—it is a direct federal constitutional conflict. Passage guarantees litigation and likely invalidation.**

**I urge opposition.**

**Legislative Notice:**

**The General Assembly is on notice that HB 1730 presents clear Supremacy Clause and federal preemption conflicts and will almost certainly be challenged in federal court. The constitutional infirmities arise from the bill’s express attempt to nullify or obstruct enforcement of valid federal law.**



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<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUSAN GIBSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
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**Sounds like the Murderers Protection Act.**