

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives 521 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-1804

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
Chair, House Committee on Rules
U.S. House of Representatives
2462 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-3305

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

Speaker Johnson, Rep. Foxx, members of the House committee on Rules:

For 90 years, the National Firearms Act (NFA) has subjected Americans to unconstitutional infringements over their Second Amendment rights. This year's budget reconciliation process is the most significant opportunity to remove these restrictions in modern history.

The members and supporters of the National Association for Gun Rights and all of the undersigned organizations insist that you act now. Do not waste this chance to effectuate a complete rollback of the NFA and its unconstitutional provisions.

First, we insist a complete deregulation of suppressors be included in the reconciliation bill.

Suppressors should not be subjected to any type of registration requirement, background check, or special taxation in order to be manufactured, bought, sold, transferred, or possessed. Not only is it unconstitutional, it's also absurd to tax and regulate what is effectively a firearms safety device.

Currently, the NFA requires registration, a background check, and a \$200 tax stamp fee. However, there is nothing in the Congressional record explaining why Congress chose to include suppressors in the NFA to begin with. More to the point, there was zero evidence or data introduced at the time indicating that suppressors had any impact at all on public safety.

Suppressor regulation is a burden on law-abiding gun owners that lacks any shadow of justification, either practical or Constitutional. The NFA's barriers to the manufacture, purchase, sale, transfer, and ownership of suppressors should be eliminated in the current budget reconciliation package, using language compliant with the U.S. Senate "Byrd rule" (2 U.S.C. 644).

Furthermore, we also urge and insist upon the inclusion of provisions from the "Stop Harassing Owners of Rifles Today" (SHORT) Act in the reconciliation package.

This legislation would repeal outdated and unjust federal restrictions on short-barreled rifles, short-barreled shotguns, and similar firearms under the NFA — freeing responsible gun owners from excessive delays, taxation, and red tape -- all of which are inconsistent with the text, history, and tradition of the Second Amendment.

The SHORT Act is a necessary step to fully restore Second Amendment rights on firearms that have been arbitrarily and unnecessarily regulated for years, which violates core tenants of the Supreme Court's *Bruen* and *Heller* decisions.

We, the undersigned, urge the House Committee on Rules to immediately include language addressing these important Second Amendment issues.

The Second Amendment is not a second-class right, and gun owners did not give you the majorities only to perpetuate continued abuses of our right to bear arms.

Respectfully, all legislative actions or inactions in response to this request will be scored by each of our respective organizations and reported to our members and supporters regardless of your political party affiliation.

For Freedom,

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President

National Association for Gun Rights

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(Michigan)

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President

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