Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1487
Public Comment 1156. Individual. HENRY PARADIS. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: HENRY PARADIS

General Comment

Save the world, limit the guns sold!
Control of firearms, guns, ammunition, and related articles continue to warrant control under the USML. Keep the U.S. State Department in control, not the Department of Commerce. Thank you.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1489
Public Comment 1158. Individual. Helen Yeomans. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Helen Yeomans

General Comment

No gun sales without security check!
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1490
Public Comment 1159. Individual. Judith Greenberg. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Judith Greenberg
Address:
  1800 Clairmont Lake Unit 101
  Decatur, GA, 30033
Email: jgreenb@bellsouth.net
Phone: 4043251504
Fax: 30033

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch regulation of firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Dept.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1551
Public Comment 1160. Individual. Rochelle La Frinere. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Rochelle La Frinere

General Comment

The regulation of firearms export must remain with the State department, not Commerce.
Here are more details on how the rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place:

1. It would eliminate the State Department’s Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.[5]
2. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.[6]
3. It would remove the State Department’s block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.[7]


[3] Ibid., The Boston Globe


[5] The Trump administration proposes making gun exports easier. Here’s how to submit your public comment on this dangerous proposal, Violence Policy Center.

Public Comment 1162. Individual. Shari Draayer. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Shari Draayer
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          King Of Prussia, 19406
Email: shari.draayer@eastern.edu
Phone: 2158696249
Fax: 19406

General Comment

I am writing to you to formally oppose this dangerous rule change switching the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Firearms are dangerous; they are intended to be deadly. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. In a sane and just world they would be subject to more controls, not less! Forget making America great again; could we make it sane and just first?!
I oppose switching regulation of sales of firearms from the State Department to the Commerce Department. Do not make this proposed change!
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1558
Public Comment 1164. Individual. Sybil Schlesinger. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Sybil Schlesinger
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          Natick, MA, 01760
Email: sybil.sch@gmail.com
Phone: 5084048192

General Comment

Please do not enact this rule change. This proposed rule change eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.

It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.

It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

There are enough weapons in the world now. We do not need to enrich gun manufacturers at the expense of all the rest of humanity. Do not change this rule.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1560
Public Comment 1165. Individual. John McAllister. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: John McAllister

General Comment

I am against the transfer of control of international firearms sales to the Commerce Department Bureau of Industry and Security. To do so would needlessly endanger the international community with lack of appropriate regulation.
The Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.
I am a retired nurse-midwife, very concerned about the public health impacts in the U.S. and globally of too many guns in the hands of dangerous people. Let's not export our lethal problem to other countries.

Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migrations.

Keep the regulation in the State Department with stronger safeguards and a history of trained personnel to enforce them.

The N.R.A. is becoming a toxic brand, so they are looking to develop a new money stream for U.S. guns and ammunition manufacturers. Do not be cowed by their pressure.
General Comment

Please reject the proposed rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

Firearms have caused the deaths of several people I knew, in several different incidents. Firearms are dangerous. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less!

Switching regulation of gun exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration, such as our country is currently experiencing on our southern border.

To protect human safety and societal stability, please reject this rule change.

Thank you.
I oppose any rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. A rule change like this would increase the likelihood of large weapons caches getting into the hands of violent and dangerous agents and decrease safeguards for American Citizens. Arms sales are not about commerce and should not be treated as such.
General Comment

I oppose this rule change, which would transfer the regulation of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. I don't want my country to be the arms dealer to the world. What the world needs now is not more guns. More guns going around the world, possibly getting in the hands of terrorists, do not make our country or our world safer.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1570
Public Comment 1171. Individual. William Larson. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: William Larson
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Phone: 9197509592

General Comment

The sale of firearms should remain with the US Department of State. There is too big a risk that weapons could fall into the hands of terrorists. The US Department of State is better equipped to vet where and to who these weapons are sold.
Public Comment 1172. Individual. Jessica Donato. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Jessica Donato

General Comment

I am writing to you because I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.
I am writing in opposition to the proposed change in regulations regarding the export of firearms. I believe that this change endangers this country in serious ways. My concerns are as follows:

It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.[5]

It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.[6]

It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.[7]

I believe that in the interest of national security we must not change the existing regulations.

Yours truly,
Joan C. Farber, Ph.D.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1573
Public Comment 1174. Individual. Gania Barlow. 7-4-18

Submitter Information
Name: Gania Barlow

General Comment
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. The rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries.[2] With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.[3]

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition. This new regulation is wrong and dangerous not only for U.S. national security but for global security as we know that the greed of firearm manufacturers will surely trump their aversion to selling arms to dangerous countries.
I oppose this or any other rule change that would transfer authority to grant licenses for the export of firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

Firearms in international trade are used as weapons of war. Neither the US State Department, nor the US Commerce Department should not be in the business or promoting War.

The United States should not be exporting our problems with automatic and semi-automatic weapons to the rest of the world.
Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would make it easier for the export of firearms to oppressive regimes; it would remove safeguards that help keep organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons; it would increase the kind of violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration, which is already occurring at alarming rates due to wars, and criminal gang activity.

The rule change would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. This would be devastating to civilian populations.

The rule change would remove: (1) the licensing requirements for brokers, expanding the risk of trafficking; (2) the blocking ability of the State Department on the 3D printing of firearms. Without this capability, the State Department would lose an important tool for charging individuals, who use 3D printers to print firearms, with violating arms export laws. The rule switch would remove this block, and expose civilians everywhere to an exponentially larger risk of dying from the expanded use of these lethal weapons.

Please do NOT make this rule change, which will endanger innocent people's lives worldwide.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1577
Public Comment 1178. Individual. Victoria DeSarno. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Victoria DeSarno

General Comment

I oppose the rule change that would switch the control of weapons from the State Department to the Commerce Department
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1578
Public Comment 1179. Individual. christine maciel. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

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Fax: 12553

General Comment

Please do not accept the regulation of firearm exports to be changed from the State Department to the Commerce Dept.
This kind of business requires oversight from Congress, our elected representatives. The exports of firearms is too important to be considered just commerce, there are dangerous consequences to exporting firearms; we cannot consider this 'business as usual'. Oversight is required. No change!
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1579
Public Comment 1180. Individual. Timothy Bailey. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Timothy Bailey
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John Day, OR, 97845
Email: ktsk@ortelco.net
Phone: (541) 792-0569

General Comment

I strongly oppose this rule change that would change the regulations of firearms export from U.S. State Department to U.S.Commerce Department.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1580
Public Comment 1181. Individual. Lyn Bober. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Lyn Bober
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   500 N.Portahe Path
   Akron, OH, 44303-1222
Email: lynbober@aol.com
Phone: 3307014421

General Comment

I am very concerned about this. I strongly oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. The safety of our country, its people AND the world, depends upon keeping this under the governance & control of our State Department. Thank you for your consideration.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1581
Public Comment 1182. Individual. Marge Schwartz. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Marge Schwartz

General Comment

Gun sales should remain under the Jurisdiction of the State Dept. The Commerce Dept. would enable guns to be sold to enemies of the U.S. because their job is to promote sales.
I oppose the proposed rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

I believe firearms exports should stay under the regulation of the State Department and that Congress should have the power to block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it might see reason to stop in the name of national security, or to prohibit sales to countries where there are serious human rights concerns.

Moreover, the Commerce Department does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

This proposed change would make our country less safe by fueling terrorism and organized crime around the world.

Please keep firearms exports under the regulation of the State Department.

Thank You,

Eve Luckring
3641 Lavell Drive
I STRONGLY oppose the switching of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department!

The bottom line is that switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.

It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.

It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

We do not need to PROFIT from the selling of guns around the world!
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Weapons of war, now used to massacre children in our country, should not be sold for profit overseas. This in no way makes us more secure. It makes us sorry souls who would sell the lives of children for profit.
I am very much opposed to this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration. Firearms are dangerous. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less!

Thank you for considering the safety of the citizens and not the profits of the gun industry.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1592
Public Comment 1187. Individual. Nancy Chismar. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Nancy Chismar

General Comment

A rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department (focused on safeguarding our nation) to the U.S. Commerce Department (focused on promoting American business) would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. This is NOT acceptable.
I strongly oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. Right now, firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey. Meanwhile, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

Please keep these regulations under the authority of the State Department - the proposed rule change benefits the NRA and arms profiteers, and no one else.
I am writing because I am against moving the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department which is focused on safeguarding our nation, to the U.S. Commerce Department which is focused on promoting American business.

This transfer of authority would open floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security.

- It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program (in place since 1940) which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
- It would also remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
- And it would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms.

As an example to the last comment: When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

We all know that firearms are dangerous. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations.
This is why firearms should be subject to more controls, not less!
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1596
Public Comment 1190. Individual. James Klein. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: James Klein
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          Corpus Christi, 78411
Email: jeklein64@yahoo.com
Phone: 361-334-3908

General Comment

I strongly Oppose a rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

The rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place.

Common sense gun safety measures, like numerous other issues (climate change, food labeling, immigration reform, prison reform, education reform, short-term lending regulation, healthcare reform, banking regulation, opioid regulation) remains a vexing problem primarily due to corporations' ability to curry favor with elected officials. The corrupting influence of money in our political system is undermining our democratic traditions and discouraging Americans from voting and/or running for office. This ominous development may well end our experiment in representative democracy unless we alter this decades-long trend. For the sake of the republic, we must amend the US Constitution to state that corporations are not people (and do not have constitutional rights) and money is not speech (and thus can be regulated by state and/or federal campaign finance laws). Short of accomplishing this, no other reform of significance will be achieved. The moneyed interests will turn any reform to their benefit, often at the expense of the nation as a whole.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1597
Public Comment 1191. Individual. Cindy Ware. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

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   5100 Peyton Chapel
   Haymarket, 20169
Email: sheltiemom47@gmail.com
Phone: 919-360-0546

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulation of firearms export from the US State Dept. to US Commerce Dept.
I am writing to say that I am absolutely opposed to the rule change that would transfer the regulation of firearms export licenses of semiautomatic weapons and other powerful weapons from the State Department to the Department of Commerce. Congressional oversight of the movement of these weapons must remain intact and be strengthened. We need more oversight, not less! This rule change could mean that congress is no longer automatically informed about sizeable weapons sales that it could stop in the interest of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights issues.

The Department of Commerce lacks the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have the staff it would need for this important work. It is completely unacceptable to me that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations and other violent, dangerous agents would have their way facilitated by a lack of vigilance on our part.
Right now, firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey. President Trump and his administration don't seem to care about America's standing with other countries or preserving life and health of anyone who's not a billionaire. America needs to remain a safe, diverse country to keep functioning.
General Comment

My family and I have just learned the the NRA is lobbying to move regulations of sales from US gun manufacturers from this Department to that of Commerce Dept. This UTTERLY UNACCEPTABLE!

No other nation in the world has a civilian population that is armed as ours is here. Who are the customers for these weapons? Terrorists, paramilitary groups and criminals. Will US weapons be used to kill our own military personnel? To kill our allies and friends? To kill vulnerable population groups? To kill American tourists? Without a doubt!

Putting regulation of weapons sales in the hands of Commerce is a complete renunciation of every effort to control the flow of weapons that can and will be used against Americans (and other humans)! This is such insanity, it crossed the line to treason, as it aids and abets the enemies of the United States of America.

You must use everything in your power to stop this descent into chaos.
The state department should continue the regulation of fire arms exports. I am against the department of commerce handling this important and supposedly secure job.
I oppose the rule change which would put international fire arms sales under the jurisdiction of the Commerce Department. In an era when we are concerned about terrorism and weapons availability, it seems very wrong to move gun sales into a sphere where buying and selling would be the chief concern rather than national security. Please leave arms sales under the oversight of Defense.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1624
Public Comment 1197. Individual. Gary Korengel. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

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  Hudson, FL, 34667
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Phone: 727-378-7169

General Comment

Do not transfer the responsibility of regulating and approving the export of US guns to the US Department of Commerce.

Company's goals are to increase sales and shareholder dividends, not screen if their weapons are being shipped to Terrorist Nations or Terrorist Organizations.

The US Department of State is much better equipped to assure that US guns are not used in the future against US Soldiers and Citizens.
The president is wrong. Again. He is pandering to weapons manufacturers because fascism believes corporate profits trump (pun intended) everything else. Including the security of the nation. Less control over arms sent to questionable locations (Mexico anyone?) results in those arms being used against Americans. There are important issues to be resolved in this country and this one is so far from the top it doesn't deserve any consideration.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1626
Public Comment 1199. Individual. James Krist. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

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   Arnold,  21012
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Phone: 410-212-4585

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. THE US SHOULD NOT BE EXPORTING MILITARY FIREARMS!!!
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1627
Public Comment 1200. Individual. Jessica Livingston. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Jessica Livingston

General Comment

Keep firearms classified as "military" to keep Americans safe. Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1628
Public Comment 1201. Anonymous. 7-4-18

Submitter Information
Name: anonymous Anonymous

General Comment
There should be no transfer from the US State Dept. to the US Commerce Dept. of the regulation and supervision of firearms exports.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1629
Public Comment 1202. Individual. Brad Johnson. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Brad Johnson

General Comment

This is horrible. The consequences will be dire.
Submitter Information

Name: Cheryl Ritch

General Comment

I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. I do not believe that this proposed change is in the best interest of the people of this country or the people in the world at large.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1631
Public Comment 1204. Individual. Kim Kensler-Prager. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Kim Kensler-Prager
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    Toledo, 43606
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Phone: 4194918268
Fax: 43606

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. We need gun safety in our country not pandering to the NRA.
The control of firearm sales should always be under the warrant control of USML and never Commerce department. These are not toys or produce. These are military weapons of death and destruction never meant to be out of the hands of the military! The regulations on sales need to be kept as is and tightened even more per states so we have a trail of each weapon sold by whom.

I do not agree with changing the control of firearms, guns, ammunition & related articles like the President wants to in this rule!

Selling guns like candy to the highest bidder! OMG!
I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal that firearms exports be moved from the US State Department to the Commerce Department. These sales should be closely monitored; weaponry should not be regarded as exports like wheat or autos.

Thanks for your consideration.
I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department, which does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

In addition, this rule change would mean that Congress would no longer be able to watch for guns going to countries guilty of human rights violations. This is something that Commerce, frankly, would not especially care about. They would only care about sales.
As a concerned American and member of the world's human race, I urge you to do whatever is necessary to reject the move of international sale of American firearms to your department. Your goal is to increase access to the world for American business, and while it is a worthy mission, to move weapon sales flips the focus from safety and peace to making money. This is where our wonderful capitalist system can easily run amok because, all too often, with money as a motivator, it's much easier for deals to be made that may not be in our country's - or the world's - best interests.

Please reject the pressures of the NRA and gun manufacturers and, instead, stand up for humanity rather than for money-making. Thank you for doing the right thing.
General Comment

I am writing to oppose the transfer of gun export permitting from the State Department to the Department of Commerce. State and Congress must continue its efforts to keep large scale gun sales out of the hands of tyrants, human rights abusers, and terrorists. Please support State retaining this important responsibility. Otherwise, Commerce will be complicit with the NRA and gun manufacturers in widespread violence, abuse, and terrorism around the world.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking. It would also remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.
I'm a teacher. I was teaching 30 minutes away from Newtown, CT when the Sandy Hook massacre occurred. I had students who knew murdered first graders. There was an active shooter situation near a college campus 30 minutes from my current house this week in which a New York State Trooper was killed. The gun violence in this country needs to be reigned in. In the interests of National Security, arms regulations must be regulated by a department interested in national security, NOT commerce. Please, we are failing to protect our citizens from firearms badly enough as it is.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1639
Public Comment 1212. Individual. Janet Pecci. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Janet Pecci
Address:
    3704 Swift Drive
    Raleigh, NC, 27606
Email: jpecci@att.net
Phone: 919-851-1112

General Comment

I oppose moving export license oversight for firearms from the Department of State to the Department of Commerce. The proposed rule treats semi-automatic weapons as non-military when they are, in fact, used by the military. We need Congressional oversight for important gun export deals. The Commerce Department promotes trade at the expense of public safety.
I oppose this rule change which would switch the regulation of firearms exports from the US State Department to the US Department of Commerce. This would remove any congressional oversight of firearms exports and potentially allowing exports to dangerous foreign parties.
I oppose in the strongest voice this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Our world is already in an unsafe and perilous state with rampant uncontrolled gun violence here and abroad. Allow the State Dept to continue its authority to oversee the sale and transfer of firearms. Do not transfer this authority to the Dept of Commerce that has no experience with national security and does not have adequate staff to enforce these new functions. This rule change would hugely threaten the safety and security of our own country as well as internationally.
To Whom It Concerns:

I oppose this rule switching the responsibility for regulatory oversight of firearms exports from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Diplomacy not weapons should be our chief export.

If the switch is made, the DOC will have to fulfill its charter to US businesses. Avoid having to aid the distribution of more weapons abroad! Imagine if we retained credibility to solve through diplomacy conflicts around the world. Not only have we been ceding that ground, but now will we increase our presence through even more weaponry? Is my beloved country becoming an evil empire? Please, please, please do not allow this change! Save yourselves from that burden!

Patriotically yours,
I am opposed to the rule change that would allow the management of export licenses to be regulated by the U.S. Commerce Department. This function should remain with the U.S. State Department, to discourage trade in high-powered firearms.

Thank You.
This gives freedom to all who trade in guns, and will foster violence on both sides of the border. The drug war will never be one until we quit selling guns to Mexico, and reduce the violence involved.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1645
Public Comment 1218. Individual. Gail Fleischaker. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Gail Fleischaker
Address:
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   Shutesbury, MA, 01072
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Phone: 4132530565

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. It is a naked attempt to allow greater export, hence greater production -- all for the interests of U.S. arms manufacturers and against the interests of U.S. safety and security.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1646
Public Comment 1219. Individual. Deborah Doane. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Deborah Doane

General Comment

Commerce Department.

You should not have control over the sale of firearms. The State Department will protect us against terrorism. We do not want to enable anti-American factions to arm themselves and attack us.

Don't do it!
I oppose changing the rules to change regulations of firearms exports from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. U.S. weapons already flood the globe, fueling deadly conflicts worldwide, and I do not want Commerce pushing weapons as a business interest. The State Department's job is protecting our country, and they need to oversee firearms exports in order to do so.

Keep firearms exports under the purview of the U.S. State Department. Thank you.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. With this rule change, Congress would no longer be able to block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries, because it would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey. The Commerce Department does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls and its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere.
How incredibly immoral; do we stand for nothing but commerce any more? Were rapidly becoming a ghastly parody of banana republics; decency, responsibility, moral stature, going, going, gone, to the highest bidders.
This absolutely and incredibly absurd!
I am opposed to switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department because it would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and it would further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1652
Public Comment 1225. Individual. Robert Handelsman. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Robert Handelsman
Address: 2643 Central Park
EVanston, IL, 60201
Email: trtfmnlwr@aol.com
Phone: 847-491-1950

General Comment

Keep arms export licenses in the State Department
It would be a colossal mistake to treat firearms, particularly semi-automatic weapons, as commodity for export. Providing lethal weapons abroad requires thoughtful review and followup that should remain with the State Department. Let's not export violence to the world in the name of making a buck for weapons manufacturers.
Why does the government allow itself to be bullied by the NRA?!?! Regulating arms sales is the job of the State department. Gun manufacturers already profit enough from guns terrorizing U.S. citizens--don't open new floodgates for arms sales internationally and further jeopardize our national security.
Public Submission

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1655
Public Comment 1228. Individual. Elizabeth Milliken. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Elizabeth Milliken
Address:
   1256 Hudson Avenue
   St. Helena, CA, 94574
Email: beth@spottswoode.com
Phone: 7079638754
Fax: 94574

General Comment

I write this to let you know that I strongly oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1656
Public Comment 1229. Individual. Caitlin Johnston. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Caitlin Johnston

General Comment

I am against any change to the regulations governing the international sale/export/import of fire arms!
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1657
Public Comment 1230. Individual. Robert Hanson. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Robert Hanson

General Comment

Let's work for a world with less guns...not more.

Please reject the proposed changes.

Bob Hanson, Professor Emeritus
San Diego State University
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1659
Public Comment 1231. Individual. Mary Jane Engh. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Mary Jane Engh
Address:  
    PO Box 97  
    Garfield, WA, 99130
Email: enghmje@frontier.com
Phone: 5096351402
Fax: 99130

General Comment

I strongly oppose changing the control of arms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. This would deprive Congress and the State Department of the ability to prevent U.S. gun manufacturers from arming dictators, rebels, civil wars, criminals, and enemy regimes around the world, all in the name of profit.
I oppose the rule change that would switch regulations of firearms from the US State Dept to the US Commerce Dept.
I am totally against switching the regulation of gun sales and munitions to international buyers from the State Department to the Commerce Department. This move would make weapons of war just money-making opportunities for selected businessmen while substantially increasing the risk of war and death in the receiving countries. Guns and other munitions should not be made equivalent to clothing, farm implements and other exports. These exports kill people.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1662
Public Comment 1234. Individual. Raven Deerwater. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Raven Deerwater
Address:  
   PO Box 1786
   Mendocino, CA, 95460
Email: raven@taxpractitioner.com
Phone: 7079371099

General Comment

On this Independence day, please do not shift the exporting of military grade firearms to the Commerce Department -- all it will do is fuel terrorism and make the world less safe. Do not trifle with US Security so gun manufacturers can get more sales.
I strongly oppose any change in regulation of firearms from the State Department to the Commerce Department. There are so many countries and non-state actors that would take advantage of any laxity in this regulation and this could create more violence, chaos, repression in countries around the world. There is already enough violence in the world without making it even easier to enact it.

Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.[4]

All of the effects below would be highly detrimental to safety around the world and ultimately, hurtful as well for U.S. citizens:

It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.
It makes no sense to transfer the regulation of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Firearms exports need to be regulated, not promoted. American-made guns do enough damage here at home. We don't want to become responsible for exporting the carnage caused by firearms to other parts of the world. This is wrong-headed and immoral, and I strongly oppose it.
You can write in something like: I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

Turning firearm sales into a commodity is not the way to address gun violence; it would just be another score for the NRA and the gun industry.
I believe the U.S. should strictly regulate the sale of firearms to other countries. The State Department is more appropriate than Commerce to oversee the sales. Further, the U.S. government should not encourage sales of firearms to other countries. The gun industry has shown that it will go to extreme lengths to promote firearm sales, without consideration for the societal impacts of doing so.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1667
Public Comment 1239. Individual. Robert Kuning. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Robert Kuning
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Phone: 5058988184

General Comment

I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. The bottom line is that switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration. The NRA is supporting and pushing this legislation to enable gun manufacturers to reap more profits at the cost of more innocent lives.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

This rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place:

- It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.[1]
- It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.[2]
- It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.[3]

[1] The Trump administration proposes making gun exports easier. Heres how to submit your public comment on this dangerous proposal, Violence Policy Center.


Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1669
Public Comment 1241. Individual. Michael Loewenstein. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Michael Loewenstein

General Comment

1. Do not eliminate the Blue Lantern Program.
2. Do not eliminate licensing for brokers.
3. Do not remove block on 3d printing of firearms.

Firearms are dangerous. Most people know how to use them, what the don't know is WHEN to use them if ever.
General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulation of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. If this change is made, Congress would no longer be informed of large arms sales or be able to block them. Military-style weapons, such as semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms, could be exported to dangerous foreign countries, threatening our national security.

Furthermore, the Commerce Department is focused on promoting the U.S. business interests, not national security. It does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls, so firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

This change would also eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking. And it would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms, allowing anyone to make unlimited numbers of weapons.

This administration has claimed that our national security is risked by immigrants at our borders, but this change -- initiated only for motives of profit -- would have the effect of increasing civil wars and gang violence in foreign countries that would bring more people seeking asylum to our borders. Our non-stop wars on terrorism would be made more difficult and costly if our enemies can purchase military-style weapons with impunity.
For all these reasons, this change of regulatory control would be serving the arms makers, but hurting the country as a whole. I oppose it and I hope you will too.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1671
Public Comment 1243. Individual. Sandra Rohde. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

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         Appleton, WI, 54915-8197
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Fax: 54915-8197

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.
I want to keep our country safe & the world safe.
I oppose the proposed rule change that would put the regulation of exports of firearms in the hands of the Commerce Department rather than the State Department. Terrorists could buy these weapons. I see this rule change as opening up massive sales of firearms throughout the world. This would be a threat to both our national security and the security of the world. Again, I oppose this rule change.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1673
Public Comment 1245. Individual. Marianne Ludwig. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Marianne Ludwig
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Phone: 2165980259

General Comment

If in some alternate universe the Department of State thinks a foreign country needs more automatic weapons, they are far better able to assess that need than the commerce department. Please dont change this rule. We have enough problems with the guns we already have. We dont need to ruin someone rlses Homeland by selling them more unnecessary weapons.
GENERAL COMMENT

With this rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

Firearms are dangerous. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less!
I oppose changing oversight of gun sales from the State Department to the Commerce Department. Commerce does not have the resources to take on this job.
I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. The U.S. State Department must remain focused on safeguarding our nation while the U.S. Commerce Department should continue promoting American business. This proposed rule change will have profound impact on our national security as well as the security of nations around the world as new avenues are opened for the worldwide sale of arms. We must work to make our nation and the world safer. This proposed rule will only increase danger here and around the world.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1658
Public Comment 1230. Individual. Esther Diamondstone. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Esther Diamondstone

General Comment

Haven't we already had enough of Americans being killed abroad with American weaponry in someone else's hands? I oppose moving the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Help keep our nation safer from groups who would rapidly take advantage of this change to stockpile more arms.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1706
Public Comment 1251. Individual. Bertino Marro. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Bertino Marro
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    578 10th St.
    Brooklyn, NY 11215-4402, NY, 11215
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General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to
the U.S. Commerce Department.

Currently, firearms exports are classified as military and are under the regulation of the State Department,
enabling Congress to block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change,
Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that should be stopped in the
name of national security - even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns.

Furthermore, the Commerce Department does not have adequate resources to enforce export controls. Its Bureau
of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. Thus firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist
organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of
American guns and ammunition.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1705
Public Comment 1252. Individual. Elizabeth Russell. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Elizabeth Russell

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. We can't even keep our own citizens from using firearms on one another. Why on earth would we want to make it easier to arm the world, just for a buck? Please don't let this insanity move forward.
Do not let the NRA push a rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department (focused on safeguarding our nation) to the U.S. Commerce Department (focused on promoting American business)

The bottom line is that switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.[4]

It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.[5]
It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.[6]
It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1703
Public Comment 1254. Individual. Carol Emrick. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Carol Emrick

General Comment

This president does not speak for me. We have lax gun laws and too may Americans are killed or injured seriously on a daily basis. Until gun owners are responsible for their actions and trained properly on gun ownership this is a ridiculous request. Do not relinquish this control.
I am appalled and outraged by the fact that congress no longer declares war in order for US involvement to take place. I want congress to decide on weapons sales to foreign countries and forces. To have weapons manufacturers benefiting from foreign wars is a paving stone toward fascism. Our president should not be a dictator deciding upon these sales on his own. Congressional debate and decision making must be the process we follow.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1701
Public Comment 1256. Individual. Katherine Wood. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Katherine Wood
Address: 19 Maka Hou Loop
         Wailuku, HI, 96793
Email: ka.wood2011@gmail.com
Phone: 808-344-0472

General Comment

The control of guns, ammunition, and related articles DOES still BELONG under the Control of US Munitions List. We need the US State Dept. responsible for national security responsible for who gets to buy large batches of weapons, etc. It makes no sense to have the Dept. of Commerce whose primary goal is to promote business & profits to "really" care about protection of the country over profit.

It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.

It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.

It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

Sometimes changes can be good BUT this places the entire country at risk.
I oppose this change. Don't make it easier to get guns.
General Comment

Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration. The Commerce Department does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

The proposed rule would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking. And it would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

The world does not need any more weapons and the U.S. does not need this rule change. I strongly oppose this proposed rule to change U.S. international arms regulations.
I am quite disturbed to learn that our government wants to contribute to greater violence, instability, and war in the world. Yet that is what this rule would do, by moving the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security.

I can see why the National Rifle Association is promoting this -- they want to encourage more gun sales. But other than arms manufacturers profits, there is only detriment, not benefit, to everyone else.

This rule change would It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

In the interest of our national security and the safety of people in the US and all over the world, please reject this rule change.
Firearms are dangerous. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less! Right now, firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.
This is insanity! Please don't allow more weapons in this violent world. Think about humanity. I strongly oppose this change.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1695
Public Comment 1262. Individual. Julia Knight. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Julia Knight

General Comment

I oppose the firearms rule change!
I strongly oppose relaxing rules to make it easier for U.S. firearm manufacturers to export assault rifles and other guns, with less oversight and accountability. With gun violence killing 1,000 people around the world every day, I support saving lives as a priority. Thank you for considering my views.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1693
Public Comment 1264. Individual. Susan Singh. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Susan Singh

General Comment

Under no circumstances should the sale of firearms abroad by put under the Commerce Department. Then we will clearly have the situation we have now in the U.S. - the burgeoning and unregulated sale of deadly weapons to mentally ill people, criminals, youth, against the will and welfare of the majority of people in the U.S. Now, already the biggest arms sales purveyor in the world, we want to sell more arms around the world, so other cultures will have our problem of way too many very dangerous firearms in the hands of the wrong people. I am not opposed to all business, just opposed to businesses that harm people such as weapons manufacturers.
As a US Citizen I do not approve of this change in regulations.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1691
Public Comment 1266. Individual. Tina McKim. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Tina McKim

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. International arm sales should absolutely be under state control, not controlled by profit margins. Treating international gun sales as a commodity to be ever increased will increase global violence and threaten national security. It would put so many guns into the wrong hands and would be disastrous.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

Here are more details on how the rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place:

1) It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
2) It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
3) It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1689
Public Comment 1268. Individual. Jennifer Loudon. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Jennifer Loudon
Address:
  54 Tryon Farm Lane
  Michigan City, 46360

General Comment

I absolutely oppose this change. These are weapons of war, and their regulation belongs fully and permanently under the authority of the State Department.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1688
Public Comment 1269. Anonymous. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Anonymous Anonymous

General Comment

My husband and I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.
As long as the export of firearms is under the regulation of the State Department, Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. A rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department, would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. With a change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

In addition, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have adequate staff available at the multiple locations necessary. Without adequate controls, firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition. The obvious security nightmare such a change would create far outweighs financial benefits to private American weapons manufacturers, and the plan should be not just shelved, but tossed out permanently.
I oppose the rule change switching the regulation of gun exports from State Dept. to Commerce. The Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

The safety and security of American citizens requires that large gun sales continue to be classed as "military" and overseen by the State Dept. and Congress.
General Comment

The NRA and gun manufacturers want guns everywhere, for everyone, not just here in the United States, but around the world. If a rule change occurs that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department (focused on safeguarding our nation) to the U.S. Commerce Department (focused on promoting American business), it would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security.

Now, firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the insane rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

The rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place:
1. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
2. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
3. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

The Commerce Department does not have the resources or mission to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. Firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

Firearms are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence,
terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less!
I vigorously oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. I demand that rule change die before human beings do.
I oppose switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. Guns are clearly in a very separate category from other commercial products. Toasters are not used by terrorists, organized crime, or for political violence.

The United States needs to maintain or even increase strict export controls and rigorous enforcement of firearms trade. The proposed change would remove licensing requirements for brokers, resulting in increased firearms trafficking. This will put many more lives around the world in danger from the unscrupulous use of firearms.

This change would also result in the elimination of the State Department's Blue Lantern program, which carries out hundred of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.

The oversight of the export of items with clear potential military or illegal use should remain with the State Department.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1683
Public Comment 1274. Individual. Henriet Nadler Cohen. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Henriet Nadler Cohen
Address: 2727 Palisade Ave.
Bronx, NY, 10463
Email: henrietcohen22@gmail.com

General Comment

To Whom It May Concern,
I am a mother, grandmother and Social Worker. In my work with children, I saw first hand the devastating effects of gun violence on families. I am writing because the spread of guns, automatic assault rifles is a truly an assault on civil society.

This is why I am writing in opposition to moving export license oversight for firearms from the Department of State to the Department of Commerce because the proposed rule change treats semi automatic assault rifles as non-military”. This is despite the fact that U.S troops routinely use their military rifles in semi automatic mode, these weapons are used by state and non-state groups in armed conflicts, and the civilian possession of such weapons is prohibited in many countries. The proposed rule also: eliminates Congressional oversight for important gun export deals; transfers the cost of processing licenses from gun manufacturers to taxpayers; and, enables unchecked gun production in the U.S and exports abroad by removing the block on 3D printing of firearms. The proposal reduces transparency and reporting on gun exports and transfers gun export licensing from an agency with a mission to promote stability, conflict reduction, and human rights, to an agency with a mission to promote trade and which lacks the resources to adequately enforce export controls. This is why I am opposed to moving oversight for firearms from the State Department. Firearms unnecessarily kill a thousand people every day in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism and human rights violations. They should be subject to MORE CONTROLS, not fewer.

Respectfully,
Henriet Nadler Cohen
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1682
Public Comment 1275. Individual. Jean Grattet. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Jean Grattet

General Comment

Allowing unregulated sale of weapons to foreign countries is an obvious ploy by the NRA representing Gun Manufacturers would be a disastrous action. It is difficult to understand how any moral person would support this.
I strongly oppose the removal of international arms regulation from the State Dept to the Commerce Dept. State is in the unique position to evaluate the international impact of arms sales to particular individuals and areas of the world, as well as to identify likely bad actors in this exchange. Arms dealers around the world have been contributing to making the world a more dangerous place, and State has been able to limit some of that impact. The mission of the Department of Commerce is to promote commerce, not to secure the safety of the world's citizens. This shift in responsibility is ill-advised and will have dangerous repercussions.
Submitter Information

Name: Emma Houseman

General Comment

Please refuse to accept the regulation of semiautomatic guns and similar devices to foreign countries or individuals. This can only lead to far greater danger to our country and its people. This regulation must remain under the US State Department whose mandate is to protect our country's safety, rather than your's whose mandate is to increase foreign sales.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1679
Public Comment 1278. Anonymous. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Anonymous Anonymous

General Comment

To whom it may concern - as a U.S. resident in the state of Texas, I oppose this rule change that would enable gun sales to other countries. Our own current state of gun mania and lax regulations is killing too many young Americans, we have a moral obligation not to perpetuate this problem in other countries for the sake of corporate greed.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1619
Public Comment 1279. Individual. Judith Herzfeld. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Judith Herzfeld

General Comment

Increasing international commerce in guns will just increase violence in receiving countries and drive more refugees to our borders. Don't we have more than enough of that already?
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1618
Public Comment 1280. Individual. George Fuller. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: George Fuller
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General Comment

I oppose the proposed rule for the following reasons:
The proposed rule treats semi-automatic assault rifles as non-military. But many state and non-state groups in importing countries use semi-automatic rifles in armed conflicts, causing enormous damage. U.S. troops use rifles in semi-automatic mode an overwhelming amount of the time. Regarding wide retail availability of firearms, about which comment has been requested, many countries prohibit civilian possession of semi-automatic rifles and handguns, as well as of any larger caliber firearm. Because military-style assault rifles clearly have substantial military utility, transfer of these firearms to Commerce Department control is inconsistent with the statutory framework enacted by the Congress to regulate the export of arms. The proposed rule would eliminate Congressional oversight for important gun export deals. Congress will no longer be automatically informed about sizable sales of these weapons. That will limit its ability to comment on related human rights concerns, as it recently did on the Philippines and Turkey.[2] Congressional action in 2002 required sales of firearms regulated by the US Munitions List valued at $1 million or more be notified to Congress. Items moved to Commerce control would no longer be subject to such notification. In a September 15, 2017, letter, Senators Benjamin Cardin, Dianne Feinstein, and Patrick Leahy explicitly noted that this move would violate Congressional intent and effectively eliminate Congress proper role. The new rules would transfer the cost of processing licenses from gun manufacturers to taxpayers. Registration fees that since the 1940s have been used to offset the costs to the government of tracking who is manufacturing weapons would no longer apply to manufacturers of semi-automatic weapons, and Commerce does not charge any fee for licensing. So the government i.e., taxpayers will absorb the cost of reviewing applications and processing licenses.
The rule reduces end-use controls for gun exports. It would eliminate the State Department's Blue Lantern program for gun and ammunition exports, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It also would move license approval out of the department that compiles the U.S. Government's information on human rights violations, reducing the ability to effectively deny weapons licenses to international human rights violators. End-use controls also are weakened by eliminating registration of firearms exporters, a requirement since the 1940s. Registration of exporters allows the State Department to check an exporter's history whenever a manufacturer or broker requests a license for a particular gun export sale. But the transfer of licensing to Commerce will remove new exporters and brokers of these firearms from the State Department database, weakening enforcement against arms trafficking.

The rule enables unchecked gun production in the U.S. and exports abroad by removing the block on 3D printing of firearms. Unless corrected, the new regulations run the risk of effectively condoning and enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe. By effectively eliminating many means to detect firearms, background checks on domestic sales and end-use controls on international exports for such weapons, this change could generate many preventable tragedies.

The Commerce Department does not have resources to enforce export controls, even before the addition of 10,000 firearms export license applicants as a result of this rule predicted by Commerce.[4] Moreover, the State Department has developed extensive data, expertise and institutional relations to implement the Leahy Law for security assistance, which can serve as a critical foundation in both pre-license and post-shipment checks to control and verify end uses and end users. Commerce does not have these resources.

This rule would transfer gun export licensing to an agency the Commerce Department whose principle mission is to promote trade. Firearms, both assault weapons and non-semi-automatic weapons, are uniquely and pervasively used in criminal violence around the world. Controlling their export should be handled by the State Department, which is mandated and structured to address the potential impacts in importing nations on stability, human security, conflict, and human rights.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1617
Public Comment 1281. Individual. Ruth Sheldon. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Ruth Sheldon

General Comment

Please do not make this rule change. We need the tightest possible control on the sale of firearms, in our country and in the world and putting control under the Dept of Commerce will just encourage more sales. The State Department's function is to help create a more peaceful world. The Department of Commerce is just interested in selling more stuff.
this should be unconstitutional due to the liabilities to our own military abroad and us police agencies involved with the drug trade.
**PUBLIC SUBMISSION**

**Docket:** BIS-2017-0004  
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

**Comment On:** BIS-2017-0004-0001  
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

**Document:** BIS-2017-0004-1615  
Public Comment 1283. Individual. Elizabeth Songalia. 7-4-18

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**Submitter Information**

**Name:** Elizabeth Songalia  
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649 Waseca St.  
St. Paul, MN, 55107  
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**Phone:** 6512243718

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**General Comment**

Firearms exports must continue to be classified as military. They must remain under the regulation of the State Department so Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries.

I am opposed to switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department because this change would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

The State Departments Blue Lantern program must not be eliminated.

Licensing requirements for brokers must not be eliminated.

The State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms must not be eliminated.

Firearms are dangerous. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less!
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1614
Public Comment 1284. Individual. Nydia Leaf. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Nydia Leaf
Address:
    46 West 95 Street
    #3B
    New York, NY, 10025-6718
Email: nyleaf13@gmail.com
Phone: 2128657875

General Comment

To the U.S. Commerce Department - To Whom It May Concern:

My family and I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. It is a matter of national security - we must not and cannot permit any change that will open the floodgates of weapons trading.
I strongly oppose the Rule change in International Traffic in Arms Regulation. This is a terrible change to longstanding and effective regulation of international arms sales from the USA that will not only harm our standing in the civilized western world, but also help arm the worst war criminals who oppress their own people.

The bottom line is that switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

Here are more details on how the rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place:

It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.

It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.

It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

The only beneficiaries of this rule change are gun manufactures, arms dealers and the vermin they arm. This makes the USA less safe and compromises our moral standing and values. This change is totally against the interests of USA citizens. Please do not do it.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. The rule change would make such sales a matter of money rather than one of national/international defense and security. We do harm to our own and other nations when we supply deadly weapons to terrorists and lawless governments.

This kind of sale alienates law-abiding nations (of which we should be the leader), betrays international agreements, and foments violence around the world.

For these reasons I oppose the change.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1611
Public Comment 1287. Individual. Mary Duerksen. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Mary Duerksen

General Comment

I oppose moving the regulation of firearms exports from the Department of State to Department of Commerce. This change would make the world a more dangerous place:
-It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
-It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
-It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.
Public Comment 1288. Individual. Nancy O Byrne. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Nancy O'Byrne
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          St. Augustine, FL, 32080
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Phone: 9044223618
Fax: 32080

General Comment

This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. I oppose this proposed rule.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey. Meanwhile, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

The bottom line is that switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

Leave firearm export regulations with the State Department whose primary interest is national security and not with the Commerce Department whose primary interest is promoting American business.
I strongly oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. It would make the world a more dangerous place and increase the number of firearms thereby increasing crime and adding to the unsafe conditions that can cause increased migration. Firearms are definitely munitions that need to stay.
I oppose the rule change that would place weapons sales under the oversight of the Department of Commerce rather than the U.S. Department of State. There is no need to change the current review system.
I oppose switching oversight on gun sales from the State Department to the Commerce Department.
We do not need to allow the greed of the NRA and gunmakers to flood the world with more guns. We have a huge problem with gun violence in our country and immigrants fleeing even greater gun violence in their countries. Our borders are overwhelmed with people seeking asylum. We as a nation have a moral obligation not to help spread violence to other countries. The poor in most countries would not have the means to buy weapons but they could be purchased and used against the poor in fledgling democracies!
I oppose this rule change switching the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

Such a switch would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration. Firearms exports should remain under the regulation of the U.S. State Department. Thank you.
Right now, firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

You MUST do everything in your power to never allow this to happen! You MUST keep ALL Americans safe in our own country! Thank you!
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1602
Public Comment 1296. Individual. Carole Katz. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Carole Katz
Address:
   306 Heritage Hills
   Somers, NY, 10589
Email: dori12@aol.com
Phone: 212 831 3001

General Comment

There are too many firearms in this country already- more than for everyone of us to have them. Children are being murdered in their schools. We need more not less oversight. How much is the NRA encouraging this change. There only interest is making money & spreading fear. They arent really trying to protect us. The spread of fire arms has only increased the number of deaths by firearms contrary to popular information spread by them. Stop the killing. Stop this change. Thank you.
I strongly disagree with giving the US Commerce Department regulatory control over the export of firearms to foreign countries. I feel this would put our national security at risk. This department does not have the resources found at the State Department and could put weapons in the hands of terrorists and criminal elements. Why as a country would we want to risk this happening?
Submitter Information

Name: R catania
Address:  
        ,  RI, 02857
Email: greenhills12345@gmail.com
Phone: 4014750000

General Comment

I vehemently DO NOT agree with the proposed rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This is a dangerous proposal, as it would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program on inspections and reports. It would also remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking tremendously. DO NOT CHANGE THE RULE.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1599
Public Comment 1299. Individual. Chris Saia. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Chris Saia

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.

It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms.

When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

Changing any of these rules, at this point, would be bat-shit crazy.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1593
Public Comment 1300. Individual. RJ Cooper. 7-4-18

Submitter Information
Name: RJ Cooper

General Comment
Limit arms exports. Do not move jurisdiction to Commerce! If that is done, almost anyone, anywhere can purchase military grade weopons.
I oppose the proposed rule changes that would result in less regulation of weapon & ammunition sales that would increase the danger of violent acts occurring in the US, as well as other countries.

Currently firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1588
Public Comment 1302. Individual. Paul Runion. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: paul runion

General Comment

I oppose the rule change which would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S Dept. of State to the U.S. Dept. of Commerce
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1586
Public Comment 1303. Individual. Pam Pouchot. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Pam Pouchot
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    Yorktown, VA, 23692
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Phone: 757-898-8453

General Comment

Aren't there enough armed terrorists in the world without the US providing an unlimited amount of deadly weapons to them?
In the past the US has had enough common sense to ban the unfettered sales of firearms/ammunition to foreign countries.
Apparently there are those in our government who feel arming those who may eventually use those weapons to kill Americans as well as our allies is a good position to hold as long as the firearms industry can make a buck. I value innocent life more than they do. I strongly urge you to retain the existing rules to keep the world a slightly safer place.
As a citizen of the United States, I am very concerned about gun violence and our exporting of this violence by selling guns to other countries. I oppose the proposed rule for the following reasons:

1. The proposed rule treats semi-automatic assault rifles as non-military. But many state and non-state groups in importing countries use semi-automatic rifles in armed conflicts, causing enormous damage. U.S. troops use rifles in semi-automatic mode an overwhelming amount of the time. Regarding wide retail availability of firearms, about which comment has been requested, many countries prohibit civilian possession of semi-automatic rifles and handguns, as well as of any larger caliber firearm. Many semi-automatic rifles are also easily converted to fully automatic firearms. Because military-style assault rifles clearly have substantial military utility, transfer of these firearms to Commerce Department control is inconsistent with the statutory framework enacted by the Congress to regulate the export of arms.

2. The proposed rule would eliminate Congressional oversight for important gun export deals. Congress will no longer be automatically informed about sizable sales of these weapons. That will limit its ability to comment on related human rights concerns. In a September 15, 2017, letter, Senators Benjamin Cardin, Dianne Feinstein, and Patrick Leahy explicitly noted that this move would violate Congressional intent and effectively eliminate Congress proper role.

3. The new rules would transfer the cost of processing licenses from gun manufacturers to taxpayers. Registration fees that since the 1940s have been used to offset the costs to the government of tracking who is manufacturing weapons would no longer apply to manufacturers of semi-automatic weapons, and Commerce does not charge any fee for licensing. So the government -- i.e., taxpayers -- will absorb the cost of reviewing
applications and processing licenses. Gun exporters that benefit from these sales should shoulder this cost.  
4. National laws for brokers and financiers who arrange firearm shipments are a weak link in the chain of efforts to curtail trafficking of small arms and light weapons. There is good reason for concern that firearms brokers will no longer be subject to US brokering law. Although Commerce states it will retain rules on brokering for a State Department list that includes assault rifles, there is no statutory basis for brokers of these weapons to register and obtain a license, increasing the risk of trafficking.  
5. The rule reduces end-use controls for gun exports. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program for gun and ammunition exports, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It also would move license approval out of the department that compiles the U.S. Governments information on human rights violations, reducing the ability to effectively deny weapons licenses to international human rights violators. End-use controls also are weakened by eliminating registration of firearms exporters, a requirement since the 1940s. Registration of exporters allows the State Department to check an exporters history whenever a manufacturer or broker requests a license for a particular gun export sale. But the transfer of licensing to Commerce will remove new exporters and brokers of these firearms from the State Department database, weakening enforcement against arms trafficking.  
6. The Commerce Department does not have resources to enforce export controls, even before the addition of 30,000 firearms export licenses as a result of this rule predicted by Commerce. The BISs enforcement office, with no staff in Latin America, Africa, or many other parts of the world, is not equipped to take the same level of preventive measures for end-use controls. Moreover, the State Department has developed extensive data, expertise and institutional relations to implement the Leahy Law for security assistance, which can serve as a critical foundation in both pre-license and post-shipment checks to control and verify end uses and end users. Commerce does not have these resources.  
7. The proposed change will reduce transparency and reporting on gun exports. The rule would eliminate Congressional and public awareness of the total amount (dollar value and items) of firearms sales authorizations and deliveries around the world, since the Commerce Department annual reports currently only cover about 20 countries.  

Firearms are used to kill a thousand people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less.
I am writing to strongly oppose this rule change that would switch the regulation of firearms exports from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

This rule change has the potential to harm both national security and international human rights. For example, with the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

The Commerce Department simply does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large quantities of American guns and ammunition.

Thus, switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

This rule change would be dangerous and irresponsible, and must not go forward.
I am opposed to the proposal to shift the handling of export licenses for semi-automatic firearms from the Department of State to the Department of Commerce. I believe that this change would weaken our national security, and make it easier for firearms to get into the hands of dangerous people who have no business possessing firearms. The State Department is better equipped to determine national security issues.
Why in the world would the Bureau of Industry and Security even determine no longer warrant control under the United States Munitions List? How is that possible????

Have enough people (children and innocent people died going about their normal days and being killed by someone with a gun for no reason.

If anything more background and the black market should be heavily regulated and maybe someone lives can be saved!
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. The firearms we export will likely be used against our own citizens abroad or those of our allies. Enough.
I am writing in opposition to moving export license oversight for firearms from the Department of State to the Department of Commerce because the proposed rule change treats semiautomatic assault rifles as non-military. This is despite the fact that U.S. troops routinely use their military rifles in semiautomatic mode, these weapons are used by state and non-state groups in armed conflicts, and the civilian possession of such weapons is prohibited in many countries. The proposed rule also: eliminates Congressional oversight for important gun export deals; transfers the cost of processing licenses from gun manufacturers to taxpayers; and, enables unchecked gun production in the U.S. and exports abroad by removing the block on 3D printing of firearms. The proposal reduces transparency and reporting on gun exports and transfers gun export licensing from an agency with a mission to promote stability, conflict reduction, and human rights, to an agency with a mission to promote trade and which lacks the resources to adequately enforce export controls.

Firearms are used to kill a thousand people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not fewer. Please do not forget that immigrants are entering America through its southern border requesting asylum from their home countries due to gang violence. Remember these gangs and other violent people are receiving their guns from America more often than from any other country. Hence, the only reason for more easily allowing guns made in America to be shipped across its border is because there is no perceived threat to America's border security by your department. Until the State department declares that there is no increased security threat to America's southern border and vigorously denounce any actions to increase funding for border security, including for more personal or for building more walls on America's southern border, your department should refuse to take over regulations that have more than just civic commerce implications.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. This is not just about business. This is more importantly about people's safety, and ultimately, America's safety.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1559
Public Comment 1311. Individual. Elaine Pinches. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Elaine Pinches
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         Brookline, 02446
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Fax: 02446

General Comment

Please don't change the regulations! Thank you!
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1556
Public Comment 1312. Individual. James Phelps 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: James Phelps

General Comment

I am a registered gun owner and I oppose placing the export of firearms under the aegis of the Commerce Department. They are correctly classified as military and belong under the purview of the State Department.
Submitter Information

Name: Lewise Busch  
Email: lewisebusch@gmail.com  
Phone: 9199183510

General Comment

Dear sir or madame:

I heartily oppose the transition of control over the export of firearms to the Department of Commerce from the Department of State. The state department has more knowledge of the world situations in which more arms could exacerbate violence and reduce protections of civil rights and liberties. It also has more experience than Commerce in assessing the likelihoods that criminal enterprises or rogue sources of violence could be fueled by such arms transfers. It is set up to help reduce the pressure on peace by terrorists. It can help ameliorate the pressures on borders from mass immigration.

I hope not to see pictures on TV of what happens when we open the floodgates of weapons even further.

Sincerely,

Lewise Busch
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

Once the almighty dollar becomes involved, all morality & common sense fly out the window.

Thank you for your time & consideration on this important matter.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1549
Public Comment 1315. Individual. James Bachman. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: James Bachman
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    70 White Oak Cir
    Saint Charles, IL, 60174
Email: jbachman1190@sbcglobal.net
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Fax: 60174

General Comment

I object to the international trade in firearms shifting from the Department of State to the Commerce Department. We need to keep control of where the arms and what type of arms are going, what they will be used for, and whether the use is consistent with US values. The Commerce Department is charged with selling the US commerce, not in making value judgements on our exports. Do not transfer our arms sales to the Commerce Department.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1548
Public Comment 1316. Individual. Jeanne Hogan. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Jeanne Hogan
Address:
   4 Merrick Place
   Pennington, NJ, 08534
Email: jdh3011@aol.com
Fax: 08534

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. I do not want to see firearms exported to oppressive regimes, removal of safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and do not want to further & fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.[4]
Submitter Information

Name: Marie Braga

General Comment

Please STOP. Do not sell guns internationally. There are too many guns! Stop promoting guns to make money.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1546
Public Comment 1318. Individual. Barbara Matthews. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Barbara Matthews

General Comment

Please do not change the control of sale of firearms from the State Department to the Department of Commerce. Firearms exports should be continued to be classified as military", so that Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey. Unacceptable!
Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration. This is unacceptable and should not be allowed so that the NRA and gun manufacturers can sell more arms.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. It would endanger human lives, including those of US citizens.
I STRONGLY OPPOSE Trump's proposal to move export license oversight for firearms from the Department of State to the Department of Commerce THAT WOULD PROMOTE TERRORISM by making firearms seem like just another commercial commodity for the Dept. of Commerce to rubber-stamp.

The Dept. of State knows what's going on in other countries, so the Dept. of State should continue its oversight power.

Trump's proposed rule change treats semiautomatic assault rifles as non-military. WHAT BALONEY!!!!! U.S. troops routinely use their military rifles in semiautomatic mode. Foreign militaries and TERRORISTS use them. TRUMP WANTS FOREIGN DICTATORS AND TERRORISTS TO GET EASIER ACCESS TO GUNS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The proposed rule also eliminates Congressional oversight for important gun export deals. WE NEED OVERSIGHT!

The rule IMPOSES COSTS UPON TAXPAYERS that gun manufacturers should pay (costs of processing
licenses).

The rule allows unchecked gun production in the U.S. and exports abroad by removing the block on 3D printing of firearms.

PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS!!!!! PREVENT TRUMP FROM ARMING TERRORISTS!!!!!

STOP THIS INCREDIBLY RECKLESS AND STUPID RULE!!!!!
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Dept. to the U.S. Commerce Dept. because it would undermine the safety of the United States and its citizens. The Commerce Dept. cannot appropriately keep guns out of the hands of gun traffickers, terrorists, or human rights abusers, among others.
I am writing against the proposed rule change to switch the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. This change would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

More specifically, the rule change would weaken the control of arms shipments by doing the following: 1) eliminating the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them; 2) removing licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking; and 3) removing the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms.
I am writing to express my strong and vehement opposition to this rule change. Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department facilitates firearms exports to oppressive regimes, removes much-needed safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuels violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

This rule change eliminates the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It removes licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking. It removes the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch removes this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

We need a safer world, not a more dangerous one. This rule change enables the proliferation of weapons world wide. This is at best a misguided proposal and at worse an unconscionable action. Stop it now.
I oppose the rule that would switch the regulation of fire arms export from the State Department to the department of Commerce. switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.[4]

The rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place:

1. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
2. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
3. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.
General Comment

I oppose the change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department for I think this would open the flood gates to fire arms around the world. There is no good reason to make this change other then to aid an industry that has little regard for the finality of it's product and will have serious repercussions that would not be understood until it's too late. Again we ask the department please use all it's resources to oppose this move.
General Comment

I oppose the transfer of firearms and ammunitions exports from the U.S. Dept. of State to the U.S. Dept. of Commerce. The safety and security of the United States will be better served if firearms and ammunitions exports remain under the U.S. Dept. of State.
This is a horrible idea. There is adequate sales of weapons right here in the United States. The chamber of commerce has too much influence. I don't understand how people don't see that this will make our world less safe; not just here in the United States but for those countries that are already in states of violence.
I can think of no greater danger to the world and its peace than for the United States to treat the world as simply one gigantic single-person gun market. Somebody apparently thinks that an armed society is a polite society, and has forgotten South Sudan and Ethiopia.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1533
Public Comment 1331. Individual. Angela Kelly. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Angela Kelly
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         Olympia, WA, 98501
Email: angiesfemail@yahoo.com
Phone: 360-357-7692

General Comment

I am entirely opposed to any rule change that would declassify firearms as military and/or that would result in a change of the regulation of firearms exports from the U.S. Department of State to the U.S. Commerce Department. This proposed change would dramatically endanger our national and international security.

The safeguards that are in place, including the Blue Lantern program, licensing and inspection policies, a block on the 3D printing of firearms, along with congressional and public oversight that exists because the U.S. Department of State oversees the export of firearms cannot be underestimated in our global security.

It is important to keep the regulations of firearms within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of State and to continue to classify the export of firearms as military.
General Comment

Export licenses for powerful firearms should be handled by the state department not the commerce department. The object is NOT to make more money but to protect our national security.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1531
Public Comment 1333. Individual. Susan P. Walp. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Susan P. Walp
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   Cranbrook, BC, V1C 2V9
Email: susanwalp@gmail.com

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to
the U.S. Commerce Department. Firearms regulation must be fully funded, and the State Department already has
many mechanisms in place.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1530
Public Comment 1334. Individual. Charles Toll. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: CHARLES TOLL
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Email: chucktoll@hotmail.com
Phone: 7725840658

General Comment

I strongly oppose the proposed rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

At present, firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security, and for the security of numerous nations around the world.

The Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition. Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration This would be an extremely wrong-minded and harmful change.

Firearms are dangerous. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less!
Thank you for taking action to help make our country and our world a safer place. Vote against the proposed new rule!

Charles Toll
Concerned Citizen
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1529
Public Comment 1335. Individual. R C. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: R C

General Comment

Firearms, Guns, Ammunition, and Related Articles, like the human beings who use them, remain unchanged over the past two centuries, except for their capacity to cause harm. Control belongs under the USML now more than ever.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1528
Public Comment 1336. Individual. Miriam Burstein. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Miriam Burstein
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Paoli, PA, 19301
Email: punkin5170@gmail.com
Phone: 610-725-1085
Organization: NA

General Comment

I oppose switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Department of Commerce. I fear that doing so would make it easier for weapons to get into the hands of organized crime and terrorist organizations around the world and would remove congressional oversight from the practice of selling weaponry. Decisions about weapons sales need to take into account issues of human rights violations, as well as problems of uncontrolled violence in countries where peaceful civilian life has broken down. These are matters for the State Department and Congress to investigate and assess, and are not mere business concerns.
Export of weapons should be controlled by the state department. This is not like selling books, lamps or toasters. We cannot allow gun manufacturers to inject weaponry into any potentially dangerous situation they please simply for money.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security and the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1526
Public Comment 1339. Individual. Barbara Kelly-Greco. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Barbara Kelly-Greco

General Comment

Regulations of firearms exports belongs with the State Department not the Commerce Dept. This move would allow automatic and semi-automatic weapons to be sold more easily and with less regulations to terrorists and oppressive regimes around the world.

Why would you think exporting Americas gun violence problem to the entire world is a good idea? I believe the reason is corporate profit and greed. The State Department must maintain control of the exports of firearms and the Commerce Department should NOT be given this area to oversee. American lives will be put at risk and this is not acceptable!

Barbara Kelly-Greco
Medford, NJ
Submitter Information

Name: Kristine Moore

General Comment

Please do not switch firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. This would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.[4]
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1524
Public Comment 1341. Individual. Alexis Ladd. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Alexis Ladd

General Comment

Please act to prevent the sale of semi-automatic and similar guns to foreign bodies. The U.S. needs to stop being an exporter of violence and these guns do just that. As the overseeing body, you have the opportunity to block the transfer of the oversight of selling arms to the U.S. Commerce Department. As you know, the Commerce Department applies the lens of business development. This approach will work to boost the sales of guns and not regulate them, ultimately putting U.S. citizens in more danger. Creating an environment where people around the word can gain access to these weapons puts more people at risk, including Americans. We're seeing this across the United States with mass shootings happening every day -- so prevalent that they're not making national news anymore. Making more money at the expense of peoples' lives and our national security is wrong. Let the State Department continue to do their job of limiting access to these dangerous weapons.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Moving the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration. This will make the world and the United States less safe.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1522
Public Comment 1343. Anonymous. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Anonymous Anonymous

General Comment

I strongly oppose the shift of international arms sales from state to commerce department. Please don't do this.
I am against this rule change for a number of reasons. First, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition. Furthermore, the rule change would:

1. Eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
2. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
3. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.
I oppose a rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department (focused on safeguarding our nation) to the U.S. Commerce Department (focused on promoting American business). This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. At this time firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey. Deadly firearms should not be sold to whoever can pay for them. Our county's priority needs to be human safety, not profitability for firearms manufacturers.
Disgusting. Now the criminal NRA supported by president #45 wants to see more murders and expand them worldwide. Don't we have enough death at their hands.

the NRA needs to be disbanded and made a terrorist group because that is what it is.

I don't support lay public having guns, they are for the police and military and need to be extremely restricted.

so NO NO NO NO NO gun exports.

stop the insanity now.
This is a bad idea. What are they thinking!
I am writing to you today to express my strong opposition to the proposed rule to transfer oversight of small arms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. The Commerce Department prioritizes doing business over safeguarding national security which would make this change far more dangerous for Americans.

We know the US gun industry is faring poorly in today's domestic market, which is why the NRA and the National Shooting Sports Foundation has been lobbying hard to remove congressional oversight of commercial weapon sales of $1 million or more. No one else asked for it or wanted it.

The NSSF, a gun industry trade group, has already boasted the rule would lead to a 20% increase in American gun exports. We see the gun lobby's influence in the rule's description of semiautomatic assault rifles like the AR-15 as "civilian" products. These weapons were not designed for household use, the were designed to kill en masse on the battlefield. That is why they are the weapons of choice for mass shooters.

If you go forwar with this disastrous policy, I will do everything in my power-peacefully and democratically- to hold your leadership accountable for the resulting global bloodshed. That will include advocating against your budget priorities across-the-board until a new, non-corrupt administration can come in and drain the swamp.
I strongly oppose a rule change switching the regulation of firearms exports from the U.S. Department of State to the U.S. Department of Commerce. This would adversely affect our national security and would destabilize countries around the globe.

The rule change would mean that Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries with serious human rights violations such as the Philippines and Turkey. (The Boston Globe: https://www.bostonglobe.com/news/politics/2018/06/23/donald-trump-wants-make-foreign-arms-sales-easier/CbCdWLizroV6DjlCIXEVML/story.html). It is a blatant effort to enrich the U.S. gun manufacturing industry at the expense of public safety in the United States and around the world.

Martina Leinz
Burke, Virginia
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1515
Public Comment 1350. Individual. Margaret Dragonette. 7-5-18

Submitter Information
Name: Margaret Dragonette

General Comment
I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearm exports from the US State Department to the US Commerce Department. The State Department enforces rigorous restrictions on gun sales overseas because their main purpose is to safeguard our nation. I believe that changing this responsibility to the Commerce Department, whose main purpose is to promote business, would greatly increase the risk of selling guns to terrorists and put American citizens at great risk.
The rule change could generate a 20 percent increase in exports, sending another 70,000 arms annually into the global marketplace. Please stop this from happening, as we can't afford more gun deaths in this country.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1513
Public Comment 1352. Individual. Donna W. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Donna W.

General Comment

I oppose changing fire arms regulations from the State Department, which protects our country, to the Commerce Department, which promotes American businesses. We need security!
I oppose the proposed rule change that would switch regulation of firearms exports from US State Dept to US Commerce Dept. Such a change would facilitate arms exports to oppressive regimes, open the doors to criminal and terrorist organizations, and further fuel the violence that causes mass migrations. It would enable 3-D gun fabrication with impunity. We need more gun control not less.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1511
Public Comment 1354. Individual. Jay McCahill. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Jay McCahill
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   219 Scottdale Rd
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Email: jaymccahill@yahoo.com

General Comment

I am vehemently opposed to the proposed transfer of authority for regulating firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. The sale of weapons has national security and human rights implications that Commerce CANNOT manage, and Congress MUST be informed of and have the ability to block such sales, as they do in the current structure.
I oppose the transfer of authority for Arms Sales from US State Dept. to the US commerce Dept. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security.
I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Dept to the U.S. Commerce Dept. Firearms exports are classified as "military" and should stay that way. This change would endanger all the citizens of the world.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004  
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001  
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1508  
Public Comment 1357. Individual. William Skirbunt-Kozabo. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: William Skirbunt-Kozabo

General Comment

Right now, firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

Here are more details on how the rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place:
1. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
2. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
3. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

I strongly urge you to oppose this rule.
General Comment

switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration. Please keep the current regulations and make them stronger not weaker.
Let's not make it easier for U.S. gun manufacturers to export more firearms into a dangerous world filled with terrorists anxious to use them against us.
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1505
Public Comment 1360. Individual. Mary McCullough. 7-5-18

Submitter Information
Name: Mary McCullough

General Comment

Opposed to proposed rule:
I'm extremely concerned about the rollback of these regulations. In particular the ease it would ability to use a 3D printer to create firearms. Although, criminals can do it now, it would remove prohibitions and provide easy access making traveling unsafe as they are not visible going through TSA.
Please stop this rule, it puts civilians in danger of being shot and killed.
I strongly oppose the rule change which would move the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Congress no longer being automatically informed about sizable weapons sales so that it could monitor or stop them in the name of national security, (especially in the case of sales to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey), is unconscionable, short-sighted, and greedy, at the expense of the security for future generations.

The bottom line is that switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1502
Public Comment 1363. Individual. Howard Mielke. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

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   3233 DeSoto Street
   New Orleans, LA, 70119
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Fax: 70119

General Comment

For the following reasons I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department:
*It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
*It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
*It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1501
Public Comment 1364. Individual. Jacqueline Eliopoulos. 7-5-18

Submitter Information
Name: Jacqueline Eliopoulos

General Comment
Please reject this rule change entirely. It would only serve to make our violent world more dangerous and put our own nation as well as all others at even greater risk of harm. It is a stupid and reckless choice that will only serve to put all humanity in greater danger. For the sake of all humanity reject this proposal.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1500
Public Comment 1365. Individual. Ana Santoyo. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Ana Santoyo
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    1230 Astor St
    Norristown, PA, 19401
Email: Anasan19119@yahoo.com
Phone: 2157049715

General Comment

Do not change the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department to
facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like
organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes
countries and causes mass migration.

If anything we need to reduce the number of guns and other weapons available in the US and the world.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

Firearms exports are currently classified as military. They are under the regulation of the State Department, allowing Congress to block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

Moreover, the Commerce Department does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This rule change will make the U.S. and the World a MUCH more dangerous place.

As a new mother, I do not want my child growing up in fear. I currently have faith in the State Departments Blue Lantern program that carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. This new rule will remove those licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.

It is also frightening that it will remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

Please DO NOT change this rule. The current rules keep us safe in this already very dangerous world of guns and firearms.
I strongly protest against switching the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

The Commerce Department does not have the resources to effectively enforce export controls. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face fewer hurdles to getting large quantities of American guns and ammunition.

Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

Changing oversight and regulation of firearms would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D-printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder
Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D-print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

This is a dangerous, ill-considered, profit-driven move that produces revenues for the NRA and increases the likelihood of injuries and deaths.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1496
Public Comment 1369. Individual. Allison Canning. 7-5-18

Submitter Information
Name: Allison Canning

General Comment
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. I believe it would make the US & other countries less safe.
General Comment

Too many enemies of the United States already have powerful weapons to use against our soldiers and citizens. Exports are not just a commercial concern, they are a security and diplomatic concern. Please keep export decisions under the control of the State Department with it's multidimensional perspective.
The only sensible thing is to ban bump stocks and military style weapons from the general public! Please. It won't solve everything thing but it WILL solve a lot.

Please do the right thing. Not the money thing.
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1493
Public Comment 1372. Individual. Erin Orozco. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Erin Orozco

General Comment

Right now, firearms exports are classified as military, putting them under the regulation of the State Department and allowing Congress to block large sales of firearms to foreign countries. Under the Bureau of Industry and Security's (BIS's) proposed rule change, the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms would shift from the State Department (focused on safeguarding our nation) to the Commerce Department (focused on promoting American business). This means Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey, which would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally with serious implications for our national security.

The Commerce Department simply does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. BIS does not have appropriate staffing levels to monitor and regulate firearms exports on the level that they deserve, given their import to our national security. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition. Here are more details on how the rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place:

1. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
2. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
3. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.
The bottom line is that switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration. Firearms are dangerous. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less.
General Comment

I oppose this rule change which would switch the regulating of the exporting of firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

In short, such a rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place and this should be avoided at all costs!
I OPPOSE the rule change that would switch regulation of firearm exports from the U.S. State Department to the US. Commerce Department. The Commerce Department doesn't have the resources to enforce export controls. Congress needs to be informed about large firearm sales to foreign countries. We must protect national security.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.[5] I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.[6] It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

Because of these reasons, this rule change must not be implemented.
I oppose strongly this rule change, which would (I believe most intentionally!) weaken US regulation of firearm exports. Weapons of war are far from just an issue to be monitored weakly by a Commerce Department uninformed of what international impacts arms sale overseas will have. Is the world no longer dangerous...just a fertile sales ground for the arms industry? Do we want the NRA setting policy for where we ship arms? Do we want a department without strong arms enforcement capabilities to be the only agency watching for arms traffickers? Leave arms classified as such--"military"--so that the State Department and Congress will retain oversight!!
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1437
Public Comment 1377. Individual. Valerie Wald. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Valerie Wald

General Comment

This rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place.

With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

More specifically, this rule change would:

- Eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
- Remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
- Remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1435
Public Comment 1378. Individual. Fred Fall. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Fred Fall
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    106 Uxbridge
    Cherry Hill, NJ, 08034
Email: fred08034@gmail.com

General Comment

The State Department should continue to exercise their authority in this matter. It is essential to public safety and security that firearms continue to be controlled under the United States Munitions List.
I strongly oppose the proposed rule to move regulation and oversight of firearms (small arms) exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. An agency that prioritizes doing business over safeguarding national security has no business controlling the sale of small arms. In addition, it's truly crazy to eliminate congressional oversight of commercial weapons sales of $1 million or less. The obvious intent here is to increase sales for the faltering U.S. gun industry, at the expense of our national security. This is completely unacceptable. If this dangerous policy is implemented, U.S. national security is in jeopardy, as well as the safety of people around the world. Please think through the long-term implications of this change, none of which are good.

Thank you for your time and attention.
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1421
Public Comment 1380. Individual. Lucy Krasnor. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Lucy Krasnor
Address: Riverside, CT, 06878
Email: lucy@strategymortgage.com
Phone: 2036184144

General Comment

I strongly urge the Commerce Dept ad the State Dept to oppose relaxing rules that would make it easier for US firearm manufacturers to export assault rifles and other guns with less oversight and accountability. we should be making it harder and not easier to get guns- guns are meant to kill people in war and war alone. please do not change the regulations to relax the sale of guns abroad. thank you.
The Commerce Department has no way of checking on these sales. Why should gun sales be allowed to any single person, companies or countries by private gun companies? There would be no check on these. Does our country want terrorists having more weapons against us? Remember the Fast and Furious Program where guns were sold to suspected marijuana bandits and ATF agents lost track of them. As a result a Border Patrol agent was killed with one of those same guns. If the ATF knowing who they sold these guns to lost track, how would the Commerce Department keep track of who is purchasing guns? How would our allies look at this? We could be selling guns that would cause more killings in their countries. Is this a proposal to increase profits for gun companies? What has happened to common sense and morality?
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1417
Public Comment 1382. Individual. SHanti Toll. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: SHanti Toll

General Comment

Guns allow for more killing and violence toward all people and USA. PLEASE place people over profit.

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1415
Public Comment 1383. Individual. Sadie Sullivan-Greiner. 7-5-18

Submitter Information
Name: Sadie Sullivan-Greiner

General Comment
The NRA is a corporate organization focused on one thing only: How much profit they can make from the sale of weapons. As it happens, I spent part of my career working in the ordnance world at DoD. I also live on the southern border.

The notion that ANY foreign military sales should be released to the Dept of Commerce is ludicrous. Much of the gun violence we deal with is a direct result of US weapons going over the border, to arm the drug cartels, who then create the violence in our cities associated with the drug trade. No sane person would want to increase that.

Weapons sales of any sort need to be housed in the State Dept. To do otherwise is self-defeating.
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1412
Public Comment 1384. Individual. Peggy Walsh. 7-5-18

Submitter Information
Name: Peggy Walsh
Address: 444 Stockham Ave
Morrisville, PA, 19067
Email: peggywalsh65@gmail.com
Phone: 2673046353

General Comment
Comment:I am deeply opposed to this proposed change to arms and traffic regulation. It is the last thing this country or the worlds needs. It is scam to line more pockets.

1. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.[5]
2. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.[6]
3. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.[7]
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. We need safe guards in place to ensure that large quantities of weapons are not being shipped to countries with dangerous regimes. Congress must continue to be notified when large quantities of weapons are sold and shipped and where they are going. The Commerce Department lacks the controls necessary to ensure that the United States remains a conscientious global citizen.
To Whom it May Concern,

I'm deeply concerned about the Proposed Rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

The State Department's focus is safeguarding our nation
The Commerce Department's focus is on promoting American business

While the current administration has made it abundantly clear that US exports, and supporting large business is a TOP priority, the same administration has also named national security as a TOP priority, making MASSIVE changes to immigration policies and imports/tariffs under that guise. I fail to see how reducing regulations on exporting firearms DOESN'T affect national security.

This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security: facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration. How are any of those things in the best interest of our country? And doesn't nation security always come first? For example, the Defense Department has the largest slice of the US budget! And the president has tremendous powers to act in the name of national security (e.g., current travel ban), that are not available to promote business for a reason. So again, I fail to see how this proposed rule protects the national interests of this country. So while I understand that gun and weapons manufacturers would 'win' with this change, it does NOT put our security first, nor does it put the American people first.

With respect,
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1408
Public Comment 1387. Individual. Kathleen Green. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Kathleen Green
Address:
   12545 Wedgwood Circle
   Tustin, CA, 92780
Email: kathleenrgreen7@gmail.com
Phone: 949-862-7334

General Comment

I am against the rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department (focused on safeguarding our nation) to the U.S. Commerce Department (focused on promoting American business).[1] This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security.
The Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers organized crime, terrorist organizations and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.
Is the Trump Administration ready to support terrorist and organized crime in this manner? Is Trump ready to see more people die to serve his NRA masters?
The world needs less guns not more and much, much stricter regulations and safety laws.
Public Comment 1388. Individual. Julia Michalak. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Julia Michalak
Address:  
  209 NW 48th St
  Seattle, 98107
Email: jmichalak@gmail.com
Phone: 2024868782
Fax: 98107

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Exporting military grade weapons without congressional or diplomatic review opens the door to allowing US companies to provide arms to authoritarian governments, terrorists and other unethical entities. The sale of semi-automatic weapons of war is not simply a business decision, it is 100% an ethical and diplomatic decision that requires oversight from US government - and not just the commerce department, which does not have the expertise or resources to adequately evaluate these sales. The United States absolutely should not be selling weapons of war without substantial oversight from elected officials and staff with the expertise to evaluate the human rights and diplomatic implications of these sales.
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1404
Public Comment 1389. Individual. Margaret Hasselman. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Margaret Hasselman

General Comment

Firearms, guns and ammunitions MUST be regulated, and must NOT be pushed for export. There are too many guns finding their way into the wrong hands already. Stop this horrible trade now!
The NRA is pushing hard for a rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. Please do not cave to this request.
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1400
Public Comment 1391. Individual. Mary Harrison. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Mary Harrison

General Comment

I strongly oppose changing the regulation of exporting firearms from the State Department to the Commerce Department. The exporting of firearms should remain a "military" concern overseen by the State Department, because the sale of firearms to other countries can easily become a danger to the security of our own country and of other countries in the world through the acquisition of firearms by firearms traffickers, terrorist organizations, and organized crime.

The State Department has more comprehensive resources than the Commerce Department to enforce export controls on firearms.

It's clear in our own country that easy access to firearms now threatens all children in our schools. It makes no sense to make it easier for firearms from our country to be used against us, or against other countries, because of lax enforcement of controls. Keep the regulation of exporting firearms under the control of the State Department, where it can be monitored more closely.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. The U.S. State Department is focused on safeguarding our nation, while the U.S. Commerce Department is focused on promoting American business. This transfer of authority could open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would could lead to firearms exports to oppressive regimes, removing safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1397
Public Comment 1393. Individual. Yvonne Greenbaum. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Yvonne Greenbaum
Address:
   1168 garraty
   Terrell Hills, TX, 78209
Email: greenbaumyvonne@yahoo.com
Phone: 2103255781

General Comment

This is a backdoor attempt by the NRA to make gun movement easier and less transparent. This should not be allowed to happen. This is another wrong policy change by a totally corrupt administration.
I oppose switching the regulation of firearms exports from the U. S. Department of State to the U. S. Department of Commerce.

There are many good reasons why firearms exports are classified as military and are closely regulated under the Department of State, with Congress given notifications of sizable weapons sales to foreign countries and the ability to block these sales for national security.

The Department of State provides needed gun export oversight, which the Department of Commerce does not have the resources to do. Enforcing the current regulations prevents firearms traffickers, terrorist groups, organized crime, and oppressive regimes from obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

However, if gun export licensing is moved to the Department of Commerce, Congress would not be informed automatically of notable arms sales, and safeguards would be removed so that dangerous agents could more easily obtain semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms, and this opens the floodgates for destabilizing violence around the world.

The handling of export licenses of assault weapons is properly under the Department of State, which is focused on safeguarding our nation. The Department of Commerce, with its focus on promoting American business, is not the suitable agency for regulating arms exports.

I read somewhere Those who live by the sword, die by the sword. Exporting weapons around the world is not an ordinary business like exporting food or solar technology. For the sake of children everywhere, lets do all we can to prevent violence and the suffering it causes.
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1395
Public Comment 1395. Individual. Christine Zimmerman. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Christine Zimmerman

General Comment

I am very concerned about this Proposed rule change. This has the potential to have serious impact our national security. Business should not be the priority over the safety of Americans.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Firearms are not traditional commercial goods and shouldn't be treated as such. There is no good reason to make it easier for manufacturers to export firearms to other countries, to remove licensing requirements for brokers or to remove the block on the 3D printing of firearms. This is a dangerous rule change and it should be rejected.
Hello,
I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department! It is bad enough this country leads the way in allowing "poison for profit" in so many of our consumer goods. All in the name of capitalism, greed, ignorance, arrogance. Now we want to add firearms world wide?! This is pure insanity! Just look at how sick the domestic terrorist murders are in the states today. This will open the door for ALL countries to "enjoy" the murders while the "good, rich, white, conservative christians" roll in more profits! Pro-life? I think not! Pro CULT is all they really are! Studying the ORIGINS of their cult PROVES they are the ones we need to STOP! NOW! So, PLEASE! Do NOT allow these regulation changes!!
Regards,
Bill
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1392
Public Comment 1398. Individual. Loren Kollmar. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Loren Kollmar
Address: 1801 Taylor St NE
          Minneapolis, MN, 55418
Email: verucht@yahoo.com
Phone: 5074090067
Fax: 55418

General Comment

I am in opposition to this proposed change. I am not anti gun, but I don't think flooding the world with more guns is responsible or sensible. There are enough loop holes currently existing to negate this change.
I am writing to oppose the move of weapons sales and licensing from the State Department to the Department of Commerce. Here are several reasons:

1. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
2. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
3. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

In addition, the Commerce department does not have the resources to effectively enforce export controls. This transfer is bad for the U.S. and is bad for the world.

Thank you,
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1390
Public Comment 1400. Individual. Suzanne Lander. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Suzanne Lander
Address: 445 Surrey Run
Casselberry, FL, 32707
Email: selander1@earthlink.net

General Comment

I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to
the U.S. Commerce Department. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales
internationally, with serious implications for our national security. Don't we have enough people dying from
these killing machines???
I strongly oppose this proposed Bureau of industry and Security rule change.
I strongly oppose this change. Clearly recent events have demonstrated that we need stricter control of firearms.
I am writing in strong opposition to moving export license oversight for firearms from the Department of State to the Department of Commerce. The proposed rule change treats semiautomatic assault rifles as non-military. Firearms are used to kill thousands of people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, street crime, political violence, terrorism, and myriad human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not fewer. Injecting military used firearms into our everyday life puts all of us, and especially our youth and children into greater unnecessary danger.

Rina Schneur
I strongly OPPOSE changing regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Department of Commerce. This change would make our country and the world more dangerous in many ways:

It could result in more weapons on the street - certainly we have enough illicit use guns. I believe it would result in increased weapons at home and abroad and restrict The State Department's oversight of many current activities. more weapons domestically and internationally.

It would remove licensing requirements for brokers.

It stops the program that inspects pre-license guns and issues reports.

We do not see the need switch control of firearms exports unless it is to pay for firearms lobbyists. Please do not approve this move.
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1385
Public Comment 1405. Individual. Elisabeth King. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Elisabeth King
Address:
  23 Greyrmre Rd
  Brighton, MA, 02135
Email: bking32@aol.com
Phone: 617-787-0165

General Comment

To Secretary of Commerce Mr. Wilbur Ross:

I am registering my dismay at any efforts to increase export of munitions, especially to Mexico, Central America and to any nation that is at all politically unstable. Mexico is the country that I know most about because I volunteer with Greater Boston Trade Justice, a group of citizens in eastern MA working to improve NAFTA. However the dynamics in all these countries are similar.

Access to weapons is critical to the survival of drug cartels, so they love America's current lax gun laws. 70% of guns recovered in crimes in Mexico can be traced to the USA. High caliber rifles are preferred. (Ingraham,Christopher. Why Mexico's Drug Cartels Love America's Gun Laws. Washington Post. Jan. 14th 2016)

At present guns and cash are transported illegally overland along the same routes that drugs are transported north. How much easier would it be if the money obtained from drug sales were to be spent on guns legally imported into their own country? Given the cartels' level of infiltration into local and even federal government, laws regulating legal sales are very weak. (McKibbon,Cameron. Council on Hemispheric Affairs research associate, NAFTA and Drug Trafficking: Perpetuating Violence and the Illicit Supply Chain. COHA publication. March 20, 2015)

Violence related to drug trafficking is currently a huge cause of fear for life in Mexico and Central America.
Thus the problem of aliens illegally crossing the border into USA is exacerbated.

Given these facts, how does increasing firearms exports even make sense if you at the same time want to decrease illegal immigration?

In addition, how is this deregulation different than the Fast and Furious program, in which Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry was killed in December 2010? That program was rightly criticized, especially by politicians on the right side of the aisle. But that program at least tried to actually fight criminal activity. Deregulating gun exports would only increase it.

Please reconsider this deregulation.
Sincerely,
Elisabeth King
23 Greymere Rd. Brighton, MA 02135

Sent from AOL Desktop
Liz King 617-787-0165, 857-225-0396 Bking32@aol.com

Greater Boston Trade Justice FB: Greater Boston Trade Justice

Ezekiel cried out to the King of Tyre, in the abundance of your trade you were filled with violence and you sinned (28:16)
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1384
Public Comment 1406. Individual. Jane Knight. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Jane Knight
Address:
    1770 North St.
    East Montpelier, VT, 05602
Email: jane@bearpondbooks.com
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General Comment

This is an NRA-backed action that would overload the Commerce Dept, and potentially have far-ranging destabilizing effects around the world, since large weapons sales to countries that commit human rights violations would no longer be watched by Congress. This is a very dangerous potential rule change. Do NOT give in to our traitorous and homegrown terrorist organization-- the NRA!!!
I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the US State Department to the US Commerce Department.

Now, firearms exports are classified as "military." That is why they are under the regulation of the State Department and why Congress can block sales of large batches of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms to foreign countries.

If you change the rule and allow Commerce to handle this--Congress will no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales, the kind that should be stopped for reasons of national security. The Commerce Dept. does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Your Bureau of Industry and Security does not have the necessary staff in place to provide oversight.

This will mean that firearms traffickers, organized crime and terrorist organizations, as well as many other violent and dangerous groups will face far fewer hurdles to their obtaining of large caches of American gun and ammunition. Transferring of export licenses of weapons to the Dept of Commerce will open the floodgates for arms sales internationally, and this will have serious implications for our national security.

I don't think the Department of Commerce should be in charge of the export licenses for guns, for reasons of American safety and security.
Automatic and Semi-Automatic Weapons whether currently available in the U.S. from commercial dealers are primarily weapons of war designed to kill people with maximum efficiency. Reclassifying these exports as non-military and subjecting them to less scrutiny when sold outside the U.S. is dangerous both to human life and the U.S. foreign policy interests. Imagine the outrage that will be levied at the U.S. by allies and/or others if such weapons become as easily and inexpensively available abroad as they are presently in the U.S. where they have been shown to encourage gun violence and even mass murder in schools, shopping centers, concert venues, etc. Continuing to apply more scrutiny and higher export registration fees will discourage U.S. manufacturers of such weapons from offering them commercially abroad.
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Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
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Document: BIS-2017-0004-1381
Public Comment 1409. Individual. Katherine Cote. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Katherine Cote

General Comment

Firearms exports must continue to be classified as military so that they are under the regulation of the State Department, and so that Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. If firearms are not classified as "military", Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales and could not stop them in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

The Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

This would be dangerous to the US and to the world.
Dear Sir or Madam:

I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

As you likely know, this rule change would, among other things:

(a) eliminate the State Department's Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.

(b) remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.

(c) remove the State Department's block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

Please do not move forward with this rule change.

Sincerely,

Mark and Candace Anderson
I oppose the proposed rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department (focused on safeguarding our nation) to the U.S. Commerce Department (focused on promoting American business). This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. Currently, firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey. Meanwhile, the Commerce Department does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

The rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place:
- It would eliminate the State Department’s Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
- It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
- It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

Firearms are dangerous. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less! As a public health nurse and a citizen concerned about human rights and global health, I strongly oppose the proposed rule change.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1378
Public Comment 1412. Individual. Jen Manders. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Jen Manders
Address:
    1990 Ellis
    Dubuque, 52001
Email: jlmanders@aol.com
Phone: 5635565713

General Comment

Please keep ITAR governance under the US State department.
I object to control over firearm sales being, essentially, relegated to the industry. We need more oversight and stricter controls, not less control and weakened oversight. Please do not let the profit motives overcome common sense, and vote down this proposed rule.
Why would we change how guns are handled by our government? We need to keep the U.S. State Department in charge of the selling and exporting of dangerous things like guns and weapons because it is the job of the U.S. State Department to safeguard our country! Changing the department that safeguards our country to the U.S. Commerce Department would be outrageous and unsafe!

Firearms are dangerous!! They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They are used to kill U. S. citizens daily. We need MORE controls on how these weapons are acquired!

They should be subject to far more controls, not less!

The bottom line is that switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

Do not change how guns and weapons are classified! They are classified as "military" because that is how we
keep our
country safe! This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department!!

Please keep us safe. Don't let big business control how many of our enemies have weapons because they don't
care about
our lives!!
Public Comment 1415. Individual. Rita Kain. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Rita Kain
Address: 219 Bates Street
          Earlville, IL, 60518-8133
Email: tasc88@sbcglobal.net
Phone: 815-246-9370
Fax: none

General Comment

I don't feel your department has the qualifications nor the ability to make sure these weapons don't end up in terrorists, or enemy government hands. Yours is an agency tasked with improving commerce between countries. NOT securing the people of the United States!
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1374
Public Comment 1416. Individual. Vicki Shelton. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Vicki Shelton

General Comment

Guns must be limited. The Department of State will do a better job than the department of Commerce.
General Comment

Please do NOT promote gun manufacturers' profits at the expense of people's lives.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1372
Public Comment 1418. Individual. Kerry Wiessmann. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Kerry Wiessmann
Address:
   162 Limerock Terrace
   State College, PA, 16801
Email: kgw11@scasd.org
Phone: 814-238-1764

General Comment

I oppose the proposed rule for the following reasons:

The proposed rule treats semi-automatic assault rifles as non-military. But many state and non-state groups in importing countries use semi-automatic rifles in armed conflicts, causing enormous damage. Because military-style assault rifles clearly have substantial military utility, transfer of these firearms to Commerce Department control is inconsistent with the statutory framework enacted by the Congress to regulate the export of arms.

The proposed rule would eliminate Congressional oversight for important gun export deals. Congress will no longer be automatically informed about sizable sales of these weapons. That will limit its ability to comment on related human rights concerns, as it recently did on the Philippines and Turkey.[2] Congressional action in 2002 required sales of firearms regulated by the US Munitions List valued at $1 million or more be notified to Congress. Items moved to Commerce control would no longer be subject to such notification. Registration fees that since the 1940s have been used to offset the costs to the government of tracking who is manufacturing weapons would no longer apply to manufacturers of semi-automatic weapons, and Commerce does not charge any fee for licensing. So the government i.e., taxpayers will absorb the cost of reviewing applications and processing licenses. Gun exporters that benefit from these sales should shoulder this cost.

National laws for brokers and financiers who arrange firearm shipments are a weak link in the chain of efforts to curtail trafficking of small arms and light weapons. There is good reason for concern that firearms brokers will no longer be subject to US brokering law. Although Commerce states it will retain rules on brokering for a State
Department list that includes assault rifles, there is no statutory basis for brokers of these weapons to register and obtain a license, increasing the risk of trafficking. That will make it easier for unscrupulous dealers to escape attention.[3]

The rule reduces end-use controls for gun exports. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program for gun and ammunition exports, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It also would move license approval out of the department that compiles the U.S. Governments information on human rights violations, reducing the ability to effectively deny weapons licenses to international human rights violators. End-use controls also are weakened by eliminating registration of firearms exporters, a requirement since the 1940s.

The rule enables unchecked gun production in the U.S. and exports abroad by removing the block on 3D printing of firearms. Unless corrected, the new regulations run the risk of effectively condoning and enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe. By effectively eliminating many means to detect firearms, background checks on domestic sales and end-use controls on international exports for such weapons, this change could generate many preventable tragedies.

The Commerce Department does not have resources to enforce export controls, even before the addition of 10,000 firearms export license applicants as a result of this rule predicted by Commerce.[4]

The proposed change will reduce transparency and reporting on gun exports. The rule would eliminate Congressional and public awareness of the total amount (dollar value and items) of firearms sales authorizations and deliveries around the world, since the Commerce Department annual reports currently only cover about 20 countries.

This rule would transfer gun export licensing to an agency the Commerce Department whose principle mission is to promote trade. Firearms, both assault weapons and non-semi-automatic weapons, are uniquely and pervasively used in criminal violence around the world. Controlling their export should be handled by the State Department, which is mandated and structured to address the potential impacts in importing nations on stability, human security, conflict, and human rights.

Firearms are used to kill a thousand people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. Research indicates that the types of weapons being transferred to Commerce control, including AR-15, AK-47, and other military-style assault rifles and their ammunition, are weapons of choice for criminal organizations in Mexico and other Latin American countries that are responsible for most of the increasing and record levels of homicides in those countries.[5] The export of these weapons should be subject to more controls, not less.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1371
Public Comment 1419. Individual. Michael Monroe. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Michael Monroe
Address:
   15 Weybridge Rd.
   Brookline, 02445
Email: mmonroe@bidmc.harvard.edu
Phone: 6177844836

General Comment

The State Department must continue to regulate the export of firearms. The role of the State Department is to interact with other countries in a way that protect American interests and the interests of other nations. As possible agents of death, firearms can compromise both American and foreign security. The State Department has a compelling interest in preventing, or at the very least overseeing, the sale of firearms. Please do not turn over this authority to the Department of Commerce, whose focus is business, not security or diplomacy. Furthermore, the Department of Commerce does not have the resources to police the sale of firearms adequately.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1370
Public Comment 1420. Individual. Darien Gardner. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Darien Gardner
Address: 51 Pilgrim Dr.
Northampton, MA 01060
Email: darien@crocker.com
Phone: (413) 586-7697

General Comment

To the U.S. Commerce Department,

I am writing to express my opposition to any rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

I believe such a rule change would be extremely unwise because the State Department has the facilities needed to prevent guns from falling into the hands of organized criminals, political extremists, terrorists and human rights violators around the world. The Commerce Department is much less well equipped to do this.

Sincerely,
Darien Gardner

Darien Gardner
51 Pilgrim Dr.
Northampton, MA 01060
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1369
Public Comment 1421. Individual. A. Pierce. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: A. Pierce

General Comment

oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This change in the administration of gun sales will create a fundamentally more violent and unsafe world both inside and outside of the U.S.
This change would:
1. eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them
2. remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking
3. remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe

For these reasons I strongly oppose this regulatory change in arms sales.
I oppose transferring arms regulation to the Dept. of Commerce. This would open the door to even more arms trafficking than we already have. I find it stupefying that POTUS Trump, who spends most of his time complaining about arms trafficking across the border, would support such a move. It must be stopped!
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Please do not make any changes.
I strongly oppose any rule changes to give authority over arms exports to the U.S. Commerce Department. I worry that the Commerce Department would push weapons sales abroad, driving deadly conflicts even more than they already do. The State Department's mission is to protect our country, and they authority over firearms exports in order to do so effectively.
The NRA and gun manufacturers should not push guns in the United States or anywhere else in the world. I am a US citizen and voter and I oppose a rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department (focused on safeguarding our nation) to the U.S. Commerce Department (focused on promoting American business). This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. I object to this rule change and transfer of authority. Please do not implement it. Thank you
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1364
Public Comment 1426. Individual. John Sanders. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: john sanders

General Comment

I am in opposition to any change in the sales and deportation of firearms listed as category I,II, or III, Doing so may, no, will endanger the security of the nation. Running arms to terroist and drug gangs is limited now but would only escalate arming these thugs under Commerce Dept rules. Again I am in opposition to this change
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1363
Public Comment 1427. Individual. Edna Montague. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Edna Montague
Address:
   P.O. Box 6534
   OCEAN VIEW, 96737
Email: ednamontague@gmail.com
Phone: 8089297208
Fax: 96737

General Comment

The sale of fire arms and weapons should stay under the State Department to ensure that weapons do not get into the hands of terrorist or enemies of this country. The State Department has been doing a good job of monitoring the sales so they can be stopped before it is too late. The Commerce Department does not have the personnel or experience to monitor the sales of weapons. This change will seriously jeopardize our national security. I ask that there be no rule change regarding the sales of weapons.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1362
Public Comment 1428. Anonymous. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Anonymous Anonymous

General Comment

Don't allow semi-automatic weapons to be exported. It could put them into the hands of our enemies or people with mental health problems, putting many innocent people in danger.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1361
Public Comment 1429. Individual. Susan Herting, 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Susan Herting

General Comment

I do oppose the new rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export sales from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. That only provide less hurdles for firearms traffickers, organized crime and other violent agents. Thank you
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1360
Public Comment 1430. Individual. Bruce Beese. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Bruce Beese
Address: 
   1172 Portland Ave
   St. Paul, MN,  55104
Email: bandmbeese@msn.com
Phone: 651-659-0379

General Comment

I am against the movement of oversight of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department.
Please do not make this change. Firearms regulations are just fine under State.
Thank you,
Bruce Beese
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1359
Public Comment 1431. Individual. Marjory Keenan. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Marjory Keenan
Address: 1816 Vine Street
          Berkeley, CA, 94703
Email: marjkeenan44@gmail.com
Phone: 5105252649
Fax: 94703

General Comment

I oppose the proposed rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department (focused on safeguarding our nation) to the U.S. Commerce Department (focused on promoting American business). This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. Insure our safety by not changing this rule.
I believe the regulation of firearms should remain under the US Dept of State because the Congress needs to have veto power. Checks and balances are always necessary to protect our government and country and taxpayer's money.
Moving regulation of firearms export from the Department of State to the Department of Commerce seems like a misguided idea, and is likely to decrease our country's security. Without treating firearms as a military export, the risks of accidentally enabling terrorists and arms traffickers are simply too high.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1356
Public Comment 1434. Individual. Anna Gladstone. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: Anna Gladstone
Address:
   542 W Grand Blvd
   Detroit, MI, 48216
Email: acedouceanna@gmail.com

General Comment

The proposed rule to loosen regulations on firearm exportation is terrifying. Why would we want to arm the rest of the world? So that they can attack? So that they can build militias and guerilla warfare? So that these guns can end up in the hands of terrorist groups? Stop arming terrorists! Don't implement this change, it is too dangerous for our country and the world.
I am deeply concerned with the proposed plan to switch regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. Anything that can make it easier to sell more guns overseas compromises United States security. Please take whatever steps are necessary to tightly regulate overseas firearms sales in order to keep people in America, and around the world, safer.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1354
Public Comment 1436. Individual. B Dudney MD. 7-5-18

Submitter Information

Name: B Dudney, MD
Address: Forestville, CA, 95436-9604
Email: kosmicdollop@saber.net
Phone: +11234567890

General Comment

Opposed to shifting regulation of firearms export to U.S. Commerce Department.

Would stop Congress being automatically informed of weapons sales it could stop in the name of national security, especially to countries with serious human rights abuses, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

Commerce Department lacks resources to enforce export controls: Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. Hence, firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

It would eliminate:
..the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
..licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
..State Departments block on 3D printing of firearms.
Gun money is blood money. I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1352
Public Comment 1438. Individual. Ivan Rhudick. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Ivan Rhudick
Address:
   251 5th Avenue
   San Francisco, 94118
Email: ivan.rhudick@gmail.com
Phone: 510-414-4500

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Congress should continue to monitor the sales of large amounts of weapons to other nations in the interest of national security.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This is a dangerous and irresponsible action that must be stopped. The NRA and gun manufacturers want guns everywhere, for everyone, not just here in the United States, but around the world. They have been pushing hard for a rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally with serious implications for our national security.

Firearms exports are classified as military under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With having firearms sales regulated by the U.S. Commerce Department, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns.

The reality is - this is not only dangerous for other countries, but our country as well. This is truly an insane proposition that would turn ugly and deadly fast. The NRA has already proven that they don't care about anyone's life and that they will go to great lengths to get what they want. This must be stopped because they don't care how many people will die in other countries or this one as long as they make their billions. They just don't care.
I strongly oppose the rule change that would transfer the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

Arms are not just another US export to promote and arms sales should be subject to review for non-commercial implications such as use in human rights violations. These are foreign policy issues and should be treated accordingly.
I strongly oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. We truly do NOT need to export more weapons of death around this planet.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant
Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1348
Public Comment 1442. Individual. Robert Sanford. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Robert Sanford
Address: Camas, WA, 98607
Email: rhsanford@gmail.com
Phone: 2537223694
Organization: Northwest Freethought Alliance

General Comment

I'm a retired police officer and academy instructor.

I could hardly oppose this end-run around decency more strongly.

There are more guns in the US than almost anywhere.

Why do the gun manufacturers want to spread the cancer of gun violence around the world?

Could it be for money?

Unconscionable.

But not no surprise.

Robert Sanford
Camas, WA
For Gods sake, do NOT allow the switching of the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department!

Without question, it would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel the violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

Although Putin would like the way it would further undermine the reputation of standing for world peace that the USA has nurtured since its foundation, even he wouldnt approve of this if it meant his citizens could buy the guns.

Please, please do not let the NRA get away with this dangerous, greedy, thoughtless move. Keep gun control and the control of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms within the State Department!!

Our national security and, to a large extent, that of the world, depends upon it!

I would ordinarily leave my contact info but I'm afraid of NRA repercussions.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1346
Public Comment 1444. Individual. Charlene Kahn. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Charlene Kahn
Address: 2308 48TH AVE SW
         SEATTLE, 98116
Email: charlenefk@gmail.com
Phone: 2062958396

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

The U.S. State Department is focused on safeguarding our nation. The U.S. Commerce Department is focused on promoting American business. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security.
I think this is a terrible idea and should not be allowed to go forward.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

Firearms are dangerous and there needs to be more control, not less, to prevent acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations around the world.

I strongly oppose this rule that would make the world a more dangerous place.
The NRA and gun manufacturers want guns everywhere, for everyone, not just here in the United States, but around the world. They are pushing hard for a rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security.

Therefore, I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.
I oppose the proposed move of firearm exports from the State Department. For our and everyone's safety, we must not help arm the world further. Bad actors are a fact of life and they will ensure greater numbers of efficient killing devices will go to those intent on killing Americans, as well as their fellow citizens and others, thus supporting actions against our personal and national interest.
I oppose the proposed rule to transfer oversight on small arms (firearms) exports from the State Dept. to the Commerce Dept. Commerce means business. These weapons should continue to be regulated by the State Dept. We are not talking about normal household goods. I also oppose the elimination of Congressional oversight of commercial weapons sales of 1 million dollars or more.
If we're serious about terrorism, we need to keep the regulation of firearms export licenses in the State Department. I have the unique vantage point of being a New Yorker who lived through 9-11 and as someone whose hometown has had two school shootings, so I take this issue seriously and I'm concerned that the Department of Commerce will have more lax enforcement than the State Department.

Thanks!
Mary
I usually try to avoid using comments that are written for masses because I worry they won't be taken seriously. I am disappointed that just about anybody in the United States can legally buy a gun that can kill multiple civilians or LEO in a matter of minutes. The idea that a rule is being considered to spread this irresponsible behavior to other countries over which we have no control and no ability to change laws is appalling. I am attaching a letter that I think should be taken very seriously because I agree with it and want to keep the world safer even as our own country goes up in flames: I am submitting this comment in strong opposition to the proposed rule to transfer oversight of small arms (firearms) exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. This rule would make U.S. exports of small arms far more dangerous by transferring controls to an agency that prioritizes doing business over safeguarding national security. The rules elimination of congressional oversight of commercial weapons sales of $1 million or more is also reckless. This rule has one purpose only: to garner profits for a U.S. gun industry that is faring poorly in the domestic market. It comes after years of lobbying by the NRA and National Shooting Sports Foundation. No one else asked for it or wanted it. The NSSF, the trade group for the gun industry, has already boasted the rule would lead to a 20% increase in American gun exports. We see the gun lobbys influence in the rules description of semiautomatic assault rifles like the AR-15 as civilian products. These weapons were not designed for household use, they were designed to kill en masse on the battlefield. That is why they are the weapons of choice for mass shooters. If you go forward with this disastrous policy, I will do everything in my power peacefully and democratically to hold your leadership accountable for the resulting global bloodshed. That will include advocating against your budget priorities across-the-board until a new, non-corrupt administration can come in and clean house.
This move raises the threat of gun violence and danger in the US and across the world. Without State Department oversight and regulatory authority, firearms will be exported to anyone with money and fuel increased organized crime and terrorism. The children and innocents of the world will suffer while gun lobbyists, manufacturers and the NRA will profit. I strongly oppose this unnecessary change and ask you to not approve it. Thank you.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1337
Public Comment 1453. Individual. Concerned Citizen. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Concerned Citizen

General Comment

I am strongly opposed to the proposed rule to transfer oversight of small arms (firearms) exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. This rule would make U.S. exports of small arms far more dangerous by transferring controls to an agency that prioritizes doing business over safeguarding national security and eliminate congressional oversight of commercial weapons sales of $1 million or more. This rule has one purpose only: to garner profits for a U.S. gun industry at the expense of safety for communities abroad and, potentially, our own armed service members. It comes after years of lobbying by the NRA and National Shooting Sports Foundation. No one else asked for it or wanted it. One can see the gun lobby’s influence in the rules description of semiautomatic assault rifles like the AR-15 as civilian products. These weapons were not designed for civilian use; they were designed to kill on the battlefield. Please do not move forward with this disastrous policy that eliminates reasonable oversight that balances commerce with international diplomacy and national security.
As a mother and citizen I am alarmed at the amount of gun violence in this nation and at the complete failure of the government to prevent it. It's past time to stand up to the NRA and protect our children. I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1335
Public Comment 1455. Individual. Aaron Karp. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Aaron Karp
Address:
   BAL 7006
   Old Dominion University
   Norfolk, VA, 23529
Email: akarp@odu.edu
Phone: 17576835700

General Comment

The proposed ITAR revision for firearms and ammunition promises little, and risks much. As an analyst of the global arms trade and weapons proliferation for thirty years, I recognize the transformative power of regulatory reform. But this is something else. The proposed revisions promise short-term benefits, which seem unlikely to amount to much in an already competitive global market. That makes this deregulation for the sake of deregulation itself. Meanwhile, the change unleashes forces certain to accelerate long term American industrial decline and loss of influence over global consequences.

First, they show that the United States no longer will set global normative standards for all form of arms transfers and non-proliferation. Previously the United States Government has shown it will not further tighten restrictions. As the first outright relaxation of oversight standards in arms exports in over fifty years, the change marks a switch in policy dating from the Kennedy Administration.

Second, as the dominant player in global small arms trade, the United States has the most to lose from further loosening. As other countries emulate Americas relaxation of restrictions, not only will there be more firearms reaching more hotspots, but we can be certain the United States will see its share of a more competitive market decline. Other manufacturing countries, with lower wages and more aggressive export subsidies, are more likely to reap the seeds sown here.

Third, the change marks a fundamental shift in the nature of arms export oversight. By reducing the role of the
US Government, it leaves regulation exclusively to the recipient government. This shifts the burden of proof in international human rights and state oppression, from outside powers with no direct interest in the outcome, to the recipient governments, governments that are often guilty of using imported weapons in appalling or frightful ways, ways that would be completely illegal in the United States.
I strongly oppose a rule change switching the regulation of firearms exports from the U.S. Department of State to the U.S. Department of Commerce. This would adversely affect our national security and would destabilize countries around the globe.
I oppose changing the regulation of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This would remove these exports from the oversight of Congress and would threaten our national security. It would facilitate exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that prevent organized crime and terrorists from obtaining weapons, and fuel destabilizing violence around the world. Do NOT make this unnecessary change, which will put America at grave risk.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. It would promote the sale of more guns in the world, thereby making the world less safe for all.
As a former Vietnam Era military spouse I oppose anything which endangers our troops. Therefore I oppose switching the regulation of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the Commerce Department.
We need more gun regulation not less, I oppose this rule change.
I oppose shifting the responsibility for gun exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. As we've seen in recent years, armed groups around the world can cause global instability that can affect American safety. The State Department is in the best position to ensure that firearm exports do not exacerbate military situations or humanitarian crises. Thank you.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1328
Public Comment 1462. Individual. T. Katz. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: T. Katz
Address:
   274 Pine St.
   Deerfield, IL, 60015
Email: katz.t@nb27.org
Phone: 8472361006

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. The sale of more guns is not the answer, not the solution.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1327
Public Comment 1463. Individual. Harvey Liszt. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Harvey Liszt
Address:
   1922 Greenbrier Drive
   CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA, 22901-2915
Email: hliszt@nrao.edu
Phone: 4342276356
Organization: National Radio Astronomy Observatory

General Comment

I oppose the proposed rule that allows the freer export of dangerous arms.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1326
Public Comment 1464. Individual. Mary O Neill. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Mary O'Neill
Address:
   6400 Gilmet Drive
   Presque Isle, MI, 49777
Email: moneill16@excite.com
Phone: 9895952448

General Comment

We do not need more guns out there...there are already too many as shown by the number of people killed daily!
Public Submissions

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1325
Public Comment 1465. Individual. Suzanne Abrams. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Suzanne Abrams
Address:
5688 N. 6th St.
Fresno, CA, 93710
Email: sabrams7337@gmail.com
Phone: (559) 435-0612

General Comment

PLEASE of not allow guns to proliferate! PLEASE do not allow guns to proliferate!
The proposed rule is, put bluntly, a disastrous mistake that would cause the Bureau to exceed its statutory authority and intrude on matters beyond the purview of the Department.

The international export of arms and ammunition is a matter of foreign policy and international relations. U.S. sales of weapons and other ordnance abroad directly impact our relationships with other nations and our own national security. The question of whether such exports would arm our enemies and/or antagonize our allies is not a commercial one, nor is it one that should be left to the discretion of arms manufacturers and their lobbyists. It is therefore well beyond the realm of the Department of Commerce and belongs where it presently lies, with the Department of State.

Arms manufacturers would be the sole beneficiaries of the proposed rule, which would present significant risks to U.S. national interests and the public welfare. The proposed rule should therefore be abandoned.
I strongly oppose the proposed rule and urge you to abandon the proposal that will make it easier to export semi-automatic weapons and ammunition, eliminate Congressional oversight of these sales, weaken end-use controls, and enable production of 3D weapons anywhere.
As a 25-year veteran of the U.S. Commercial Service, charged with promoting the export of U.S. products & services, I strongly PROTEST against this change in the approval of the export of U.S. munitions. It is absolutely critical the the U.S. Department of State retain this authority, in order to balance the financial gain from export sales against our other important foreign policy concerns, such as a country's treatment of its own citizens, its commitment to human rights, rule of law, and basic, fundamental democratic principles.

Any short-term gain in export sales is not worth the wholesale abrogation of the very principles which America - the shining city on the hill and the world's beacon of democracy -- represents to the world and for which Americans have died.

Todd Thurwachter
I oppose any rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Please find something else to do with your busy day.
I am writing in opposition to the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Currently, firearms exports are classified as military. For this reason, they are under the regulation of the State Department, and Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns.

The Commerce Department does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

This rule change would have the following negative consequences:

1. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of
pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
2. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
3. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms.

Firearms are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less!
I OPPOSE any legislation that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department (focused on safeguarding our nation) to the U.S. Commerce Department (focused on promoting American business). This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. In addition, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition. DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN.
SDEMI-AUTOMATIC RIFLES ARE MILITARY AND SHOULD NEVER BE EXPORTED NO MATTER WHAT THE NRA SAYS
I write to express strong opposition to a proposed rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This rule change would endanger our national security and set a dangerous precedent.

This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.

It would also remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

I look forward to seeing this proposed change scrapped.
I am submitting this comment in strong opposition to the proposed rule to transfer oversight of small arms (firearms) exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. This rule would make U.S. exports of small arms far more dangerous by transferring controls to an agency that prioritizes doing business over safeguarding national security. The rules elimination of congressional oversight of commercial weapons sales of $1 million has one purpose only: to garner profits for a U.S. gun industry that is faring poorly in the domestic market. The NSSF, the trade group for the gun industry, has already boasted the rule would lead to a 20% increase in American gun exports. We see the gun lobby's influence in the rules description of semiautomatic assault rifles like the AR-15 as civilian products. These weapons were not designed for household use, they were designed to kill en masse on the battlefield. That is why they are the weapons of choice for mass shooters.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1315
Public Comment 1475. Individual. Nancy Bekavac. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Nancy Bekavac
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   2737 Devonshire Pl. NW
   Apt. 218
   Washington, DC, 20008
Email: nancy.bekavac@gmail.com
Phone: 202 450 1547

General Comment

I am writing to OPPOSE the transfer of authority over arms exports to the Department of Commerce from the State Department. As a resident of the District of Columbia, I have no voting representative in the Congress, so I am making my voice heard directly, here and now.

Firearms are the instrumentalities of war: war is evil, and the best way to avoid it is to undertake to understand and combat the sources of war. Treating the export of firearms as a mere form of commerce is shortsighted, stupid and vile. The bottom line is that switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

I have seen war in Vietnam as a journalist; I have tired to combat its aftereffects in the Balkans. Particularly in the latter, control of arms would have limited, to some extent, the predations on the civilian populations. I am utterly opposed to this change: keep firearms export controls in the hands of diplomats, not salesmen.
Public Submission

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1314
Public Comment 1476. Individual. Bonnie Jaskolka. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Bonnie Jaskolka

General Comment

Assault weapons and other powerful war toys have no place in public hands.
General Comment

The NRA is proving that it is an International Terrorist Organization. Do not leave it up to other Nations to curb these munition sales.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1269
Public Comment 1478. Individual. Brittany Olsen. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Brittany Olsen

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Maintaining national security and individual safety not just here but in all countries of the world is more important than making money off of violence.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. We do not need easier access to firearms.
More guns in this country will NOT make us safer.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1266
Public Comment 1481. Individual. George Bond. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: George Bond
Address:
    2417 Milan St
    New Orleans, LA, 70115
Email: gdbondii@cox.net
Phone: 5047025961

General Comment

We have far too many guns in this country. We dont need more.
Dangerous weapons absolutely need to be regulated.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1235
Public Comment 1483. Individual. Barb Evans. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Barb Evans

General Comment

I am demanding that you do NOT change current rules for regulation of firearm exports from US State Department to Commerce Department.

There are too many damn guns and military weapons in the world already - even the police are out-gunned!

Regulation of firearm exports needs to stay in the State Department - it should NOT be handled by the Commerce Department!
Submitter Information

Name: Gunnar Madsen

General Comment

Firearms are military, and their export and oversight should be governed by the State Department, which has the knowledge and expertise to know when and where exports are acceptable.
The U.S. Commerce Department is focused on promoting American business not safeguarding our nation. This handling of export licenses belongs with the U.S. State Department to ensure that people who are not friendly to our country are not given Licenses.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1228
Public Comment 1486. Individual. Jill Acree. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Jill Acree

General Comment

I am writing to oppose changing international gun sales to the Commerce Department. Keep international guns sales regulations with the State Department.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1226
Public Comment 1487. Individual. Mary Cato. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Mary Cato
Address: Arlington, TX, 76012
Email: mary.e.cato@gmail.com
Phone: 8172990194

General Comment

I oppose the proposed rule. Control of firearms, buns, ammunition and related articles definitely warrant control under the USML, to provide some protection to the public.
The NRA is one of the most powerful and destructive entities in the US, and look at what it has done to this country. Please do not allow the NRA to expand its influence and destructiveness to the global scene by allowing their shift to the Dept. of Commerce.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1221
Public Comment 1489. Individual. Pamela Joyner. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: PAMELA JOYNER

General Comment

THE UNREGULATED FLOW OF ARMS, AS PROPOSED BY THE NRA (YES, IT IS!), IS INSANE...KINDLY DO YOUR JOB AND LET THE ARMS BE REGULATED BY THE STATE DEPT, NOT COMMERCE.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulation of overseas firearm sales from the US State Dept to the US Commerce Dept.
Stop the floodgates for new gun sales. Thanks
General Comment

We badly need tighter gun control laws. How many more people need to be shot to death before we do something????????
I ache for the relatives of people (many of them children) who have lost their lives because of the accessibility of guns.
Public Comment 1493. Individual. Reese Forbes. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Reese Forbes
Address: 4225 West Pine Blvd #14
         Saint Louis, 63108-2869
Email: wiselion@att.net

General Comment

I am an Army Veteran and I definitely know we strict control of guns and all other types of firearms.
General Comment

I vehemently oppose this rule change to switch the regulation of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.
Stop making it easier for domestic abusers and mentally ill people to harm & kill!
I am writing to oppose this rule change. I oppose switching the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. I am concerned that the Commerce Department does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls.
The easy availability and rampant proliferation of guns, guns, guns in our society are insane and need to be stopped with sensible regulation, not with the rollback of regulations.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1206
Public Comment 1498. Individual. Paul Petruccelli. 7-6-18

Submitter Information

Name: Paul Petruccelli
Address: 
   Coram, NY, 11727
Email: ppetrucc@optonline.net
Phone: 5555555555
Organization: Cablevision

General Comment

Have you actually READ the Second Amendment?

Having trouble decoding a clear COMPOUND SENTENCE?

Have you read up on the historical realities that prevailed when it was written?

Why not just transfer enforcement authority to the NRA and GET IT OVER WITH?
First let me say that this is a totally crazy idea that's proposed. I personally like the fact that with the State Department in control of the the semi-automatic assault and other powerful weapons export licenses that Congress is always notified of sales of large numbers of these types of weapons to foreign countries and can override the sale if needed.

Here are 3 ways that I see this rule change as being harmful to the welfare of all US citizens:
1) It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.
2) It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.
3) It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.

On top of all this the Commerce Department is prepared in any way to handle this licensing process the way the State Department does. The US should not be looking to see how it can sell the most military type weapons possible.
I oppose the proposed rule for the State Department to relinquish control of firearms, guns, ammunition & related articles to the Department of Commerce. On May 24, the Trump administration proposed to make it easier to export U.S. guns and ammunition globally, even though U.S.-exported firearms are already used in many crimes, attacks and human rights violations in many other nations. Action under the rule if it is enacted will endanger lives merely to enrich munitions dealers. The Trump administration proposal applies to assault weapons and other powerful firearms, moving export licenses from the State Department to the Commerce Department. The U.S. gun lobby has advocated for these policies. The Department of Commerce estimates that the transfer of authority will increase the number of export applicants by 10,000 annually, but the Commerce Department does not have the resources to enforce export controls, even now.

The proposed rule change:

1. Treats semi-automatic assault rifles as non-military, despite their use by U.S. troops, their use by state and non-state groups in armed conflicts, and their prohibition for civilian possession in many countries.
2. Eliminates Congressional oversight for important gun export deals.
3. Transfers the cost of processing licenses from gun manufacturers to taxpayers.
4. Removes statutory license requirements for brokers, increasing risk of trafficking.
5. Reduces or eliminates end-use controls, such as State Depts Blue Lantern program, and by eliminating registration of firearms exporters, a requirement since the 1940s.
6. Enables unchecked gun production in the U.S. and exports abroad by removing the block on 3D printing of firearms.
7. Reduces transparency and reporting on gun exports.
8. Transfers gun export licensing from an agency with mission to promote stability, conflict reduction, and human rights, to an agency with mission to promote trade.
I am opposed to these anti-security rule changes.
I am against switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. A switch like this would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

The export of firearms should be done by experts in diplomacy, not experts in business. The United States is already a huge exporter of arms to the world, and changing this rule would make the world even MORE dangerous than it is:

1- It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.

2- It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.

3- It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1710
Public Comment 1503. Individual. Richard Crooker. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Richard Crooker
Address:
   7928 Woodsbluff Run
   Fogelsville, PA, 18051
Email: rcrooker@ptd.net

General Comment

The sale of weapons to other countries (or entities therein) should be in a manner which respects said country's laws. It should be done in a manner which supports, not aggravates, our foreign policy, and therefore oversight belongs with the State Dept.

To shift this responsibility to the Commerce Dept. is to put business first; it makes the U.S. no better than gun runners.

The last thing we need is to export our problems (e.g., assault weapons for individuals, large magazines) to other countries, and make it harder to work diplomatically with them.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This idea is dangerous and irresponsible.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department.

Firearms are dangerous. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less!

In particular, the interests of the citizens of the United States are better served by the status quo than by the proposed change.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1713
Public Comment 1506. Individual. Valerie Klauscher. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Valerie Klauscher
Address:
   623 Prospect Street
   Crescent Township, PA, 15046
Email: klauschers@verizon.net
Phone: 7244577412

General Comment

I am adamantly opposed to allowing export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms to be overseen by the U.S. Commerce Department rather than the U.S. State Department. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security.

I also demand that you vet all comments that are posted on both the DOS and BIS sites for bot traffic. I am an actual citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, USA.
This is a dangerous game you are playing if this goes through. This is just a ploy to increase arms profits for gun manufacturers at the expense of common sense. This rule change will decrease oversight and control. Please reconsider.
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1715
Public Comment 1508. Individual. Patricia Keefe. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Patricia Keefe
Address:
    1001 14th St. NW
    Rochester, 55901
Email: patricia.keefe@rochesterfranciscan.org
Phone: 5072827441
Fax: 55901

General Comment

Violence (from weapons) begets violence. The U.S. sells huge amounts of weaponry to areas where death and destruction follow. There are organizations (Nonviolent Peaceforce) prepared to solve conflicts without weapons. Nonviolent solutions would work but the sale of weapons prevents solutions in increase death and destruction and long term conflict.
I oppose the proposed gun exports rule change for the following reasons:

It treats semi-automatic assault rifles as non-military, despite their use by U.S. troops, their use by state and non-state groups in armed conflicts, and their prohibition for civilian possession in many countries.

It eliminates Congressional oversight for important gun export deals.

It transfers the cost of processing licenses from gun manufacturers to taxpayers.

It removes statutory license requirements for brokers, increasing risk of trafficking.

It reduces or eliminates end-use controls, such as State Depts Blue Lantern program, and by eliminating registration of firearms exporters, a requirement since the 1940s.

It enables unchecked gun production in the U.S. and exports abroad by removing the block on 3D printing of firearms.

The Commerce Department does not have the resources to enforce export controls, even now.

It reduces transparency and reporting on gun exports.

It transfers gun export licensing from agency with mission to promote stability, conflict reduction, and human rights, to an agency with mission to promote trade.

Firearms are used to kill a thousand people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political
violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1717
Public Comment 1510. Individual. Anne Dugaw. 7-4-18

Submitter Information
Name: Anne Dugaw

General Comment
I am strongly opposed to switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. This would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration. It is shameful that this switch is even being considered.
gun manufacturers are pushing hard for a rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department (focused on safeguarding our nation) to the U.S. Commerce Department (focused on promoting American business). This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security.

Please OPPOSE this transfer on grounds of national security.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004  
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001  
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1719  
Public Comment 1512. Individual. Katie Barnett. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Katie Barnett

General Comment

I oppose the proposed rule: Control of Firearms, Guns, and Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML).

Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.[1]

Here are more details on how the rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place:

It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.[2]

It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.[3]

It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.[4]


[3] Ibid., Violence Policy Center.

Right now, firearms exports are classified as military. This is why they are under the regulation of the State Department, and why Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.

Firearms are dangerous. They are used to kill people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. They should be subject to more controls, not less!

Thank you for taking action to help make our country and our world a safer place.
I very strongly oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. As firearms exports are classified as "military" and therefore are under the regulation of the State Department, Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey. And if weapons were shipped to these countries, they could be sold to our enemies.

It is my understanding that the Commerce Department does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls and the Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.
In the name of safety for EVERYONE, this rule change is a very dangerous one and should NOT happen.
Submitter Information

Name: Mary T

General Comment

I strongly oppose switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department. The Commerce Department is not equipped to do this work, is already understaffed as it is, and is carrying too much of a burden already with the mission-related work it has to do. This would a very irresponsible move that would haunt the U.S. down the road.

Removing this responsibility from the State Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.

Beware of the snake that will end up biting its own tail and eating itself alive.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1723
Public Comment 1516. Individual. Amy Jones. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Amy Jones

General Comment

Please don't change firearms export regulations. America is already unsafe for the average citizen due to lax firearms regulations. Don't export the dangers of firearms to other countries. Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Why are we making it easier to spread gun violence??
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This transfer of authority would open new floodgates for arms sales internationally, with serious implications for our national security. Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department just does not have the resources to adequately enforce export controls. Its Bureau of Industry and Security does not have staff everywhere. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition. It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking. It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source
posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule
switch
would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.
Thanking you for taking the appropriate action against this switch to make our country and our world a safer
place.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1726
Public Comment 1519. Individual. Linda Szurley. 7-4-18

Submitter Information
Name: Linda Szurley

General Comment
Please keep classifying these gun sales as "military" or the NRA will send them all over the world, probably even to use them against ourselves. it is bad enough that guns can be bought by anyone here, what will happen when they are sold to anyone, anywhere, with no checks at all!!!
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1727
Public Comment 1520. Momsrising.org. Anonymous. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Anonymous Anonymous
Organization: Mom'srising.org

General Comment

"I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Safeguarding our nation to putting it up for sale is UnAmerican. This new ruling transfers the authority from the US State Department whose focus is safeguarding our nation to the US Commerce Department whose focus is promoting business. Of course, the NRA and gun manufacturers want this as it will open new floodgates for arms sales internationally with serious implications for our national security. Thus democracy is sabotaged for both our country and we the people--all for the sake of fulfilling corporate and individualistic self interests. The following are details on how the rule change would make the world a far more dangerous place:

It would eliminate the State Departments Blue Lantern program, in place since 1940, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them.[5]

It would remove licensing requirements for brokers, increasing the risk of trafficking.[6]

It would remove the State Departments block on the 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for how to 3D print weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The rule switch would remove this block, effectively enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe.[7]

Kindly refrain from supporting this ruling as it will not serve the common good nor the values and culture that formed the United States of America.

Respectfully yours,
Do not agree to this horrendous plan by the NRA to increase the revenues of the gun manufacturers.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1739
Public Comment 1532. Individual. Pamela couch. 7-4-18

Submitter Information
Name: Pamela couch
Address: United States,

General Comment
Come on. What are we going to do about all the gun violence.
The proposed rule change that would move the handling of export licenses of semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department is a horrific idea. Assault weapons have no purpose except to kill human beings, and if the United States starts selling guns around the world to anyone who has the money, the only possible effect would be a massive increase in violent death everywhere.
I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. Firearms exports should continue to be classified as military so that Congress can block sales of large batches of firearms to foreign countries, if it sees fit. With the rule change, Congress would no longer be automatically informed about sizable weapons sales that it could stop in the name of national security, even to countries where there are serious human rights concerns, such as the Philippines and Turkey. This means that firearms traffickers, organized crime, terrorist organizations, and other violent and dangerous agents would face far fewer hurdles to obtaining large caches of American guns and ammunition.
The idea of moving the regulation of firearms from the state department to the commerce department is truly a bad idea. To cite just a few reasons it will make it easier for dictators, organized crime, and terrorists to obtain guns in large quantities. It would remove the state department block on the 3D printing of firearms which will only make matters worse. It will allow for the destabilization of countries with resulting unrest and deaths. Please, in the name of peace and sanity do not allow this to happen.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1743
Public Comment 1536. Individual. Teresa Allen. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: Teresa Allen
Address:
   6184 North Fork Rd.
   Deming, WA, 98244
Email: allenterri@comcast.net
Phone: 3605924208

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. The regulation of firearms should not be about maximizing profit but about the protection of U.S. citizens.
Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1744
Public Comment 1537. Individual. D Jessop. 7-4-18

Submitter Information

Name: D Jessop
Address:
    Santa Fe, NM, 87502
Email: darshanmay14@yahoo.com
Phone: 5057535013

General Comment

I oppose this rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. The purchase of guns should be a much more rigorous process with regular (i.e. yearly) mental evaluation and many other requirements. It's ridiculous that any person - sane or otherwise - can purchase a gun in our country.
I oppose the rule change that would switch the regulations of firearms export -- including semiautomatic assault weapons and other powerful firearms -- from the U.S. State Department to the U.S. Commerce Department. This transfer of authority would open the floodgates for arms sales internationally, which will seriously undermine our national security when they flow back through our borders illegally and without background checks. The interests of the members of the gun lobby should never be more important than the safety of the American homeland.
Switching the regulation of firearms exports from the State Department to the Commerce Department would facilitate firearms exports to oppressive regimes, remove safeguards that help keep extra-legal agents like organized crime and terrorist organizations from obtaining weapons, and further fuel violence that destabilizes countries and causes mass migration. This is ridiculous and we need to stop pretending that our government is powerless to improve this situation. We know better. It is time to do better!
PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: BIS-2017-0004
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Comment On: BIS-2017-0004-0001
Control of Firearms, Guns, Ammunition and Related Articles the President Determines No Longer Warrant Control Under the United States Munitions List (USML)

Document: BIS-2017-0004-1748
Public Comment 1540. Individual. Russell Paty. 7-9-18

Submitter Information

Name: Russell Paty
Address:
    1409 Wren Ln
    Beeville, TX, 78102
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Phone: 361.542.9393

General Comment

I am Russell Paty and have traveled around the world three times. One of my sons stood at the DMZ in Korea and the other watched the border between Egypt and Israel. I am a voter and have been for years. I support the second amendment but this is not a constitutional issue.

This rule change will make it possible for violent gangs to purchase, made in the USA, firepower, It is possible, even likely, our failure to control sales weapons for the gangs to take over Mexico and threaten our southern border.

I oppose the proposed rule

Attachments

Weapon Export

https://www.fdms.gov/fdms/getcontent?objectId=09000064834c856a&format=xml&show... 7/19/2018
I oppose the proposed rule for the following reasons:

1. The proposed rule treats semi-automatic assault rifles as “non-military.” But many state and non-state groups in importing countries use semi-automatic rifles in armed conflicts, causing enormous damage. U.S. troops use rifles in semi-automatic mode an overwhelming amount of the time. Regarding wide retail availability of firearms, about which comment has been requested, many countries prohibit civilian possession of semi-automatic rifles and handguns, as well as of any larger caliber firearm. Six U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and several large retail chains also prohibit retail sale of semi-automatic assault rifles. Many semi-automatic rifles are also easily converted to fully automatic firearms. Because military-style assault rifles clearly have substantial military utility, transfer of these firearms to Commerce Department control is inconsistent with the statutory framework enacted by the Congress to regulate the export of arms.

2. The proposed rule would eliminate Congressional oversight for important gun export deals. Congress will no longer be automatically informed about sizable sales of these weapons. That will limit its ability to comment on related human rights concerns, as it recently did on the Philippines and Turkey.[2] Congressional action in 2002 required sales of firearms regulated by the US Munitions List valued at $1 million or more be notified to Congress. Items moved to Commerce control would no longer be subject to such notification. In a September 15, 2017, letter, Senators Benjamin Cardin, Dianne Feinstein, and Patrick Leahy explicitly noted that this move would violate Congressional intent and effectively eliminate Congress’ proper role.

3. The new rules would transfer the cost of processing licenses from gun manufacturers to taxpayers. Registration fees that since the 1940s have been used to offset the costs to the government of tracking who is manufacturing weapons would no longer apply to manufacturers of semi-automatic weapons, and Commerce does not charge any fee for licensing. So the government — i.e., taxpayers — will absorb the cost of reviewing applications and processing licenses. Gun exporters that benefit from these sales should shoulder this cost.

4. National laws for brokers and financiers who arrange firearm shipments are a weak link in the chain of efforts to curtail trafficking of small arms and light weapons. There is good reason for concern that firearms brokers will no longer be subject to US brokering law. Although Commerce states it will retain rules on brokering for a State Department list that includes assault rifles, there is no statutory basis for brokers of these weapons to register and obtain a license, increasing the risk of trafficking. That will make it easier for unscrupulous dealers to escape attention.[3]

5. The rule reduces end-use controls for gun exports. It would eliminate the State Department’s Blue Lantern program for gun and ammunition exports, which carries out hundreds of pre-license and post-shipment inspections and publicly reports on them. It also would move license approval out of the department that compiles the U.S. Government’s information on human rights violations, reducing the ability to effectively deny weapons licenses to international human rights violators. End-use controls also are weakened by eliminating registration of firearms exporters, a requirement since the 1940s. Registration of exporters allows the State Department to check an exporter’s history whenever a manufacturer or broker requests a license for a particular gun export sale. But the transfer of licensing to Commerce will remove new exporters and brokers of these firearms from the State Department database, weakening enforcement against arms trafficking.

6. The rule enables unchecked gun production in the U.S. and exports abroad by removing the block on 3D printing of firearms. When Defense Distributed founder Cody Wilson posted online instructions for 3D-printing weapons, the State Department successfully charged him with violating arms export laws, since his open-source posting made it possible for anyone with
access to a 3D printer, anywhere, to produce a lethal weapon. The Commerce Department is unlikely to make the same argument once those weapons are transferred to their control. Unless corrected, the new regulations run the risk of effectively condoning and enabling 3D printing of firearms in the U.S. and around the globe. By effectively eliminating many means to detect firearms, background checks on domestic sales and end-use controls on international exports for such weapons, this change could generate many preventable tragedies.

7. The Commerce Department does not have resources to enforce export controls, even before the addition of 10,000 firearms export license applicants as a result of this rule predicted by Commerce.[4] The BIS’s enforcement office, with no staff in Latin America, Africa, or many other parts of the world, is not equipped to take the same level of preventive measures for end-use controls. Moreover, the State Department has developed extensive data, expertise and institutional relations to implement the Leahy Law for security assistance, which can serve as a critical foundation in both pre-license and post-shipment checks to control and verify end uses and end users. Commerce does not have these resources.

8. The proposed change will reduce transparency and reporting on gun exports. The rule would eliminate Congressional and public awareness of the total amount (dollar value and items) of firearms sales authorizations and deliveries around the world, since the Commerce Department annual reports currently only cover about 20 countries.

9. This rule would transfer gun export licensing to an agency – the Commerce Department – whose principle mission is to promote trade. Firearms, both assault weapons and non-semi-automatic weapons, are uniquely and pervasively used in criminal violence around the world. Controlling their export should be handled by the State Department, which is mandated and structured to address the potential impacts in importing nations on stability, human security, conflict, and human rights.

10. Firearms are used to kill a thousand people every day around the world in acts of organized crime, political violence, terrorism, and human rights violations. Research indicates that the types of weapons being transferred to Commerce control, including AR-15, AK-47, and other military-style assault rifles and their ammunition, are weapons of choice for criminal organizations in Mexico and other Latin American countries that are responsible for most of the increasing and record levels of homicides in those countries.[5] The export of these weapons should be subject to more controls, not less.