



Rachel Malone, Texas Director | [rachel.malone@gunowners.org](mailto:rachel.malone@gunowners.org) | 512-937-3006  
[www.GunOwners.org](http://www.GunOwners.org) | [www.GunOwnersTX.org](http://www.GunOwnersTX.org)

## HB 2286 (Oliverson) – SUPPORT

- Currently to own a suppressor, you have to comply with an onerous set of federal rules
- Separately, Texas ALSO has a criminal penalty for not complying with the federal rules
- HB 2286 does two things:
  - repeals Texas criminal offense
  - keeps our state from helping enforce federal regulations
- We don't agree with the federal regulations; our personnel & resources shouldn't be enforcing them.
- Texas passing HB 2286 can lead the way for needed repeal of federal regulations

### What is a firearm suppressor?

- Wide tubular device that fits onto the end of a firearm
- Functions like a muffler on a car or a dirt bike
- Purpose is to muffle the sound of a gun enough to **reduce the risk of permanent hearing damage.**

### TRUTH: Suppressors do NOT silence guns.

- **Without** a suppressor, a gunshot is ~160 decibels. Just 1 shot can cause permanent hearing damage.
- **With** a suppressor, a gunshot is mid-130's decibels (exact # depends on gun, ammo, suppressor, location)
- The occupational hazard limit is 140 decibels.

**SEE RACHEL'S SUPPRESSOR VIDEO – [hear the sound shooting with and without a suppressor!](#) [bit.ly/HB2286](http://bit.ly/HB2286)**

### TRUTH: Suppressors are a safety tool.

- A suppressor brings a firearm sound just under the hazard limit
- The CDC recommends use of a suppressor if possible to safeguard one's health
- It's **more dangerous NOT to use a suppressor** than to use one
- Many people still wear hearing protection when around suppressed gunfire because it's still loud; but a **suppressor reduces the risk of permanent hearing damage**

### TRUTH: Criminals don't use suppressors.

- There is no evidence of criminals using suppressors.
- A suppressor doesn't lend itself to criminal activity – it makes a gun heavier, longer, less concealable, and only reduces the sound 30 decibels.
- Who DOES use a suppressor? Those who shoot guns and don't want permanent hearing damage.
- When hunting: a suppressor makes it easier to communicate with those around you (no ear muffs)
- A suppressor makes shooting less of a nuisance for the surrounding area. Some countries consider it rude to shoot WITHOUT a suppressor.