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Tennessee Legislature Asks Governor and Attorney General to Oppose New ATF Rules

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Over forty members of the Tennessee legislature have signed a letter requesting Governor Bill Lee and Attorney General Herbert Slatery use their legal and executive power to resist two proposed rules from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

Spearheaded by House Criminal Justice Subcommittee Chairman Clay Doggett, members of the General Assembly state that the rules pose a “looming threat to our God-given rights”, and that the “creation of law by agency regulation sets a dangerous and unlawful precedent.” The letter echoes Members of Congress and a number of state attorneys general who have voiced concern over the ATF’s recent rule changes.

The letter closed by requesting that the governor and attorney general, “refuse to enforce such arbitrary and illegal rulings, and that you activate the legal means and law enforcement powers of this state as necessary to prevent the ATF from providing for its own enforcement of such criminal measures within the state of Tennessee.”

Chairman Doggett stated, “Our Second Amendment freedoms come at the price of constant vigilance against moves like these from our current administration which are nothing short of an attempt to enforce federal gun control by bureaucracy.”

The proposed rules in question are 86 FR 27,720, *Definition of “Frame or Receivers” and Identification of Firearms*, and 86 FR 30,826, *Factoring Criteria for Firearms with Attached “Stabilizing Braces”*. Full text of these rules can be found at <https://www.federalregister.gov/>.

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