

Amber Falgout, Communications Director, Battle Born Progress Support Testimony
AB245

Hello, Chair and members of the committee. My name is Amber Falgout, and I am the Communications Director for Battle Born Progress. I am here today to express our full support for Assembly Bill 245. AB245 effectively balances Second Amendment rights with responsible gun ownership to ensure we address gun violence. Nevadans need to be 21 years old to purchase a handgun. Similarly, Nevadans need to be 21 years old to purchase tobacco products and alcohol. I am old enough to remember when you could buy tobacco at 18 years old, and I remember when the "Tobacco 21 Bill" was passed and I remember when it was signed in 2021. I was not particularly happy about the Tobacco 21 Bill. However, I can see the reasoning behind it. I may not agree fully, but I do understand the intent of wanting to lower the rates of teens and young people picking up a dangerous, life-threatening habit. Firearms can be deadly; we all know this. Through suicide or mass shootings, the impact is the same on families and communities who lose their brothers, sisters, friends, and parents to gun violence. Setting minimum ages has been a consistent part of our laws and societal norms for decades. We have minimum ages for when teens can drive, and minimum ages for when children can be out of car seats and booster seats. All in the name of protecting them from harm. AB245 sets us on the path to ensuring responsible gun ownership is a cornerstone of our laws. Thank you to Assemblymember Jauregui for sponsoring this policy. We appreciate her dedication to ensuring Nevada moves forward with responsible firearm laws. We urge the committee to pass AB245. Thank you for your time.