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Bill to prevent felons from gaining access to firearms passes first committee

Santa Fe – Today the House Consumer and Public Affairs Committee passed HB 306, a measure that will prevent felons from using a loophole to gain access to firearms. HB 306 aligns New Mexico laws with existing federal law prohibiting and penalizing individuals who purchase and transfer firearms to felons.

“New Mexicans have sent a clear mandate to lawmakers that we must take crime seriously and we get tough on criminals, including those that assist in skirting laws to provide illegal access to firearms,” said HB 306 sponsor, House Republican Leader Ryan Lane (Aztec). “This measure is one step to ensure that felons are prevented from gaining illegal access to firearms, while providing local law enforcement with an additional tool to prosecute and keep felons off the streets. Republicans take the 2nd amendment very seriously, and this commonsense measure will ensure that law-abiding firearm owners’ rights are not infringed and will prevent felons from accessing illegal firearms.”

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