

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



BRISCOE CAIN *District 128*

March 27, 2020

Harris County Commissioners Court
1001 Preston, 9th Floor
Houston, Texas 77002

To the Honorable Members of the Harris County Commissioners Court:

I write to you today to urge you to add specialty retailers that sell firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories to the list of "essential" retail businesses that are allowed to remain open during Harris County's shelter-in-place mandate.

As the State Representative for District 128, my constituents have long voiced their support of our 2nd Amendment. Our constituents have the right to purchase firearms, ammunition, and firearms accessories at this time, and the government should not get in the way of any legal transaction. Earlier today, Attorney General Ken Paxton stated in a legal opinion that state law prevents cities and counties from "adopting regulations related to the transfer, possession, or ownership of firearms, or commerce in firearms."

Additionally, our constituents are facing an uncertain time with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and our economy, now is not the time to harm small businesses by allowing other retailers who compete for the same customers to remain open. Allowing some big box stores that sell firearms, ammunition, and firearm accessories to remain open, and not allowing similar small individual businesses to remain open, is a form of the government picking winners and losers in an already volatile economic environment.

I ask that you immediately add specialty retailers that sell firearms, ammunition, and firearms accessories to the list of "essential" retail businesses allowed to remain open during the shelter-in-place mandate.

If my office can be of any assistance, at this time or in the future, please feel free to contact us at District128.Cain@House.Texas.Gov or (512) 463-0733.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "B. Cain".

Briscoe Cain
Texas State Representative
House District 128

