

Regarding SB-941:

By requiring all sales to go through an FFL, SB 941 is a de facto prohibition on private firearm sales in Oregon. According to data included in a National Institute of Justice memo in 2013, 47% of all guns used in crime nationally are from straw purchases. Another 26% of guns used in crime are stolen. SB 941 would have little to no effect on these established methods for criminals acquiring firearms.

Domestic abuse is often cited as a large reason for universal background checks. Without laws that target the offenders and those subject to restraining orders. In many cases those who are prone to violence are already in possession of firearms and would be unaffected by this legislation.

I will quote a memorandum from the then director of the National Institute of Justice, Greg Ridgeway on universal background checks:

"Some states, such as California, require all transfers of guns to be properly documented (since 1923). This usually requires the involvement of a federally licensed dealer in the transaction. Despite this, straw purchasing continues largely unabated. Wachtel (1998) describes some straw purchasing of crime guns for Los Angeles between 1988 and 1995. There are disincentives to following the law in California (\$35 and a waiting period). Such a process can discourage a normally law-abiding citizen to spend the time and money to properly transfer his or her firearm to another. To be effective, requiring all transfers to occur at an FFL needs to be coupled with all the necessary incentives (or at least no disincentives) for unlicensed sellers to follow the law. Sanctions and threats of penalties are insufficient."