

Dear Mr. Rhoades,

I'm emailing you in regards to SB941, the bill to introduce a universal background check system in Oregon. I strongly urge you to support this important, life-saving piece of legislation.

As the number of gun-related deaths increases year after year in the US, we in Oregon can do our part to ensure that dangerous criminals, felons, and the mentally ill are barred from purchasing weapons online and through private transactions. This common-sense approach to closing the loopholes that exist in our current law will save lives.

We often hear the phrase "with great power comes great responsibility"; a gun is indeed a powerful tool, and those who possess one wield that power. It's time now to add the responsibility piece and to ensure that buyers and sellers alike are held accountable to the current laws prohibiting possession by those who are a danger to themselves and others.

This bill does not prevent any law-abiding citizens from owning or purchasing a firearm and adds no new restrictions of any kind. In the same way that a supermarket clerk checks the ID of people purchasing alcohol or tobacco to ensure they are of age, this bill simply adds a check at the point of sale to ensure that the firearm is not being sold to someone who is already, under current law, barred from owning it.

Please support this proven, effective, and widely-supported method for keeping guns out of the hands of those who would use them to do harm. Thank you.

Regards,

Darin Schnoor