

I am outraged that the Oregon Senate is racing through a poorly crafted and dangerous anti-rights bill. SB 941 makes it as difficult as possible for me to transfer a firearm to a friend or loved one, but does nothing to stop prohibited people from getting guns.

Over 20 counties have expressed their opposition to this terrible invasion of privacy. Some in law enforcement have already said they will not enforce it.

Anti-gun extremists brag about how many people are “denied” gun purchases under the current system but never talk about how many of those people are denied with no justification because of an inept bureaucracy. The State Police’s own figures show that almost all “denials” are unjustified.

Forcing me to run a background check on a friend or loved one before I give them a firearm will do nothing to prevent felons from obtaining weapons. It is clear that the entire purpose of this bill is to harass the law abiding. The disgraced former Governor ordered that Oregon State Troopers leave patrol to “investigate” every “denial” even when there is no known cause for a person being denied his rights. To expand this outrageous misuse of scarce police resources to a firearm I am lending to a friend or giving to a family member makes no sense.

When felons are denied firearms they are NOT held accountable, so nothing in this kind of legislation has any impact on them at all.

Why should I have to run a background check on a friend I have known for 25 years? Why can't I safeguard a firearm for a neighbor who is going out of town?

You are well aware that in other places these kinds of laws have led to confiscation. In New York, their gun registration lists are being used by police to harass the family of gun owners who have died. I will not let that happen in Oregon.

Vote no on any expansion of background checks and universal gun registration.

Yours,
Britton Cooper
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