

Dear Sir/Madame:

Common sense and reason appear to have been surrendered to a rich former big city mayor at the expense of law abiding Oregonians. I oppose this latest crop of proposed anti-Second Amendment legislation.

SB 525 – This legislation is susceptible to political judgments resulting in incremental exclusions of certain classes of people. There are already list of prohibited person categories under federal law.

SB 941 – Facts do not support requiring background checks for privately transferring a firearm. The criminals, who steal guns, rob and sell drugs could care less what gun laws are passed in Salem. This will only have a negative impact on law abiding citizens and create hardships and expense for lawful gun owners.

SB 945 - This bill will have serious unintended consequences. The national average for police response time is approximately ten minutes. Police typically arrive at crime scenes after the fact and the criminal is long gone. If someone wants to place their faith and trust in the police arriving in time to save them; that is their choice. Based upon my life experiences I trust in my own ability under the Second Amendment to survive until police arrive. For those of us who take our personal safety seriously, locking up our guns or making them inoperable is not a practical option. No criminal who enters a home is going to wait for the home owner to unlock or make their self-defense weapon operable. If there are juveniles in the home it is the responsibility of the home owner, not the government, to take the steps necessary to make their home safe.

One could reasonably ask what is the motivation behind the latest assault on the Second Amendment. Is this political pay back for political contributions? Is this empty, feel good legislation? Is this an attempt to chip away at the Second Amendment with the ultimate goal of destroying it? Instead of focusing on undermining the Second Amendment rights of Oregonians, why is there such a pathetic lack of enforcement of criminals who try to buy guns in Oregon? In the fall of 2014 only six out of several hundred felons who attempted to buy guns were prosecuted. This lack of enforcement of existing laws significantly undermines any arguments for new legislation which negatively impacts law abiding Oregonians. Perhaps the Oregon legislature should ask our new governor why the existing gun laws are not being enforced.

Respectfully,

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