

Aloha,

Testimony: I Completely Oppose SB 941...

Despite the overwhelming opposition and controversy surrounding this bill, it is being rushed through the legislative process. Senator Thatcher, a member of the Judiciary committee, offered this statement in a press release following the hearing: "My office alone has received hundreds of calls and thousands of emails opposing SB 941," explained Senator Thatcher. "The bill is being unfairly rushed through the legislative process denying Oregonians their right to comment on the bill or to make any changes. We haven't even had enough time to read the hundreds of pieces of testimony submitted to the Legislature on the bill."

SB 941 is an egregious bill that would require individuals to appear before a gun dealer to request a criminal background check prior to privately transferring a firearm. Transfers include, but are not limited to, sales, gifts, loans and leases. Failure to comply with this mandate could result in stiff penalties and possible loss of an individual's right to keep and bear arms.

So-called "universal" background checks do nothing to reduce violent crime, and only affect law-abiding gun owners by imposing cumbersome mandates and restrictions on the lawful purchase and possession of firearms. Criminals, by definition, do not follow the law and do not subject themselves to gun control schemes or background checks. It is already illegal to knowingly sell or transfer a firearm to someone classified as a prohibited person, and is a felony for a prohibited person to buy, own or possess a firearm. This is an ineffective and unenforceable piece of legislation that will only impact the law abiding just like I-594 up in Washington State.

SB 941, like many other firearm control schemes, is a step towards the full registration of firearms. In January 2013, the Department of Justice said that background checks on all firearm transfers "depends on...requiring gun registration."

SB 941 Is A Lie.

The Senate debate proved that supporters of SB 941 did not read it or were willing to lie about it.

Senator Prozanski said you would be able to loan a firearm to someone to go hunting, but that's not true unless you were with them at the time they were hunting.

He said the bill would not prevent a transfer to a person who was 18 to 21. That is also false.

This bill is riddled with contradictions and unenforceable provisions.

Over 20 counties have expressed their opposition to this terrible invasion of privacy. Sheriffs have said they oppose it and will not enforce it.

As a resident of Oregon and a strong supporter of the Second Amendment, I strongly urge everyone to oppose SB 941!

Do not impose billionaire Michael Bloomberg's New York-style firearm control on Oregon firearm owners.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jodi Zender