

CLATSOP COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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SHERIFF

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To Committee members regarding SB 941

April 16, 2015

As the chief law enforcement officer of my county, I want to express my strong opposition to SB 941.

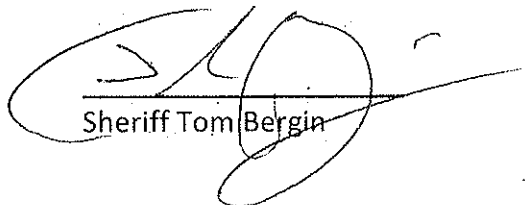
This bill has no law enforcement value and violates the rights and privacy of the people I serve.

To require trusted friends to ask permission to share or trade legal items is an affront to their constitutional liberties.

Furthermore, SB 941 creates pointless and complex barriers to lawful transfers. The bill gives no consideration to what happens when there are unjustified delays and denials and makes criminals of responsible gun owners who simply want to safeguard firearms for friends and neighbors. That is dangerous and counterproductive.

Most concerning is that this bill puts people at risk from self-protection. If a person is denied a transfer at a dealer, because of a faulty database or numerous other unintended reasons, the bill will make it illegal to borrow a firearm from a friend or neighbor if they are in danger. In rural Oregon where a lot of your constituents come from and who are law abiding citizens, I believe this puts them at even a higher risk. The supposed safe guard in this bill is weak and confusing to say the least.

I join many of my colleagues in urging you to vote no on SB 941.



Sheriff Tom Bergin