Jackson County
Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff

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Dear: House Rules Committee Members

　　　In response to Senate Bill 941 I wanted to give you my thoughts as Jackson County Sheriff. As you are aware there has been some concern regarding Senate Bill 941. I also have several concerns regarding this proposed legislation. SB 941 regulates the transfers of firearms between citizens and requires a background check be completed prior to a private party sale or transfer of a firearm. I understand that this does not mean that firearm transfers among family, on shooting ranges, when hunting, or for a taking a gun to the gunsmith will require a back ground check.

　　　While I certainly agree those who intend to commit criminal acts with firearms or those who are prohibited from obtaining firearms need not to have them, this bill will do little or nothing to prevent that. This type of legislation is designed to govern and regulate the behavior of law abiding citizens not those who choose to engage in illegal activity.

　　　We are presented with challenges on a daily basis to prioritize our resources to best serve the community of Jackson County. Senate Bill 941 presents numerous enforcement issues that will place additional strain on public safety resources in our valley. I feel our resources are better used by enforcing and prosecuting those who commit gun related crimes based on current laws and addressing the rise in mental health issues in our region.

　　　As the Sheriff I have sworn to uphold the law and I take that oath very serious. I also have the responsibility to ensure I advocate for the best quality of life for the citizens of Jackson County. SB 941 will not positively affect the quality of life in Jackson County or the State of Oregon. Therefore, I do not support this legislation.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Corey Falls
Jackson County Sheriff