

I represent Congregation Beth Israel in Portland, Oregon. As a member of the faith community and a private citizen, I support universal background checks including those advocated by SB 941. We need to cut through the rhetoric around this issue and look at the facts. Information that I have found shows that in states that require background checks for handgun sales, there are fewer suicides by gun, fewer women shot to death by intimate partners, and a reduction in the rate of the firearms trafficking.

The Talmud teaches us that "he who takes one life it is as though he has destroyed the universe and he who saves one life it is as though he has saved the universe."

Please save lives by passing this common sense law.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Friedenwald

Portland, Oregon