

# Robert Yuille

30 NE 85th Ave Portland OR.

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Oregon House Committee hearing on SB 941

Chairman Hoyle, members of the committee

My name is Robert Yuille, I live in Portland , I thank you for the opportunity to be here today and participate in the legislative process.

I am a gun owner and a victim of gun violence. My wife Cindy Yuille was murdered while christmas shopping at Clackamass Town Center December 11 2012, I don't know if the gun used to murder her was purchased with or without a background check.

I am here today to to encourage the passage of SB 941 which would close the the loophole in current law that allows felons and other dangerous people to purchase guns through the internet or anonymously person to person.

Sixteen states already require background checks for all handguns. In the first 15 months since Colorado passed such a law more than 15000 unlicensed gun sales were subject to background checks, more than 300 gun sales to criminals or other dangerous people were blocked and it is believed that thousands others were deterred.

Critics of the background check system suggest that if the system were expanded to cover private sales criminals would simply take their search to the black market, and I am sure this is true, however, research shows that contrary to conventional wisdom, buying a gun on the black market is neither easy nor cheep, criminals report paying 4-5 times more on the black market for guns that are not reliable and have a high risk of injury or arrest.

It has also been argued that background checks are inconvenient, well excuse me but how inconvenient is it when a restricted individual wounds or murders someone with a gun they should not have been able to buy.

Oregon passed background check laws in 1999 to prevent dangerous people form buying guns at gun shows which were an easy and anonymous location for these transactions, legislators at that time did not realize how the internet would replace gun shows as easy access to weapons.

Currently 87% of Oregonians want the availability of guns to dangerous people through person to person and online sales stopped.

Irresponsible gun owners who allow easy access to guns by criminals or dangerous people have put all Oregonians at risk, sadly now action must be taken, just as motorcycle helmet laws save lives, child car seat restraint laws save lives, car seatbelt laws save lives ,SB 941 will save lives and help make Oregonians safer.

Respectfully

Robert Yuille.