

Hello, my name is Erica Vaughn, and I am a mother of 3, a teacher, and a volunteer with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. I am also a gun owner. I'm here today to advocate for SB 797.

As a gun owner, and a law-abiding citizen, I know that SB 797 will not only protect me, but will also work to protect my community, and the people whom I love.

- SB 797 will protect not only SPOUSES of people with restraining orders against them, but also dating partners. Why should a dating partner have any less security than someone who is married? American women are 16 times more likely to be killed with a gun than women in other high-income countries.
- It will protect stalking victims by prohibiting criminals convicted of stalking from having guns in the first place. A study of 10 major cities found that 9 in 10 attempted murders of women involved at least once incident of stalking in the year before the attempted murder.
- It will set active alerts when criminals, who are prohibited from owning guns in the first place, attempt to purchase a gun.

Setting up an active alert system that will notify authorities when a convicted criminal, prohibited from purchasing a gun attempts to purchase one, is not difficult. This person is breaking the law, pure and simple. Law enforcement should be notified immediately so that they can respond just as quickly.

Guns do not belong in the hands of dangerous criminals.

- Last, but most definitely not least, SB 797 closes the Charleston Loophole.

SB 797 gives Oregon State Police more time to complete background checks on gun buyers who have complicated criminal histories.

My husband and I have no criminal history, so if we go in to purchase a gun, the background check will likely be processed instantly. But if someone goes in to purchase a gun, and has a more complicated criminal history, it can take more time.

Currently, if the background check takes more than 3 business days to clear, the dealer can decide to sell the gun without a completed background check. Wouldn't it make you feel better, as a citizen of that same community, to know that the authorities had all of the information— had all of their i's dotted, and their t's crossed before that gun was sold? .

On Saturday, April 11, 2015 Dylann Roof went in to purchase a gun. His background check did not clear immediately. Three business days later, on Wednesday, April 15, when the background check still had not cleared, the gun dealer sold him a .45 caliber handgun. Dylann

Roof then used that gun to murder 9 people as they sat at a prayer meeting at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina.

How would those 9 lives, and the lives of their loved ones be different if the authorities were given more time to complete the background check?

- At least 18 other states, and the District of Columbia give authorities longer than 3 days to complete a background check. Oregon must become one of those states.

I urge you, with every fiber of my being, to pass Senate Bill 797 for every Oregonian.

Thank you.

Erica Vaughn
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Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense