



Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee,

My client, the Oregon Gun Owners has been protecting firearms rights in Oregon for over 42 years. Our philosophy is clear and simple: to preserve our right as a free people to own and use firearms for legitimate purposes including self-defense, collecting, target shooting and hunting.

In accordance with that right, we emphasize and promote responsible and safe ownership of all firearms. Through our Education Foundation, we support and fund programs designed to promote gun safety.

OGO is opposed to SB 797, as currently written. This bill would permanently prohibit the transfer or sale of a firearm if the Oregon State Police (OSP) are unable to determine a result from a background check, which is required during the transfer of a firearm. It is very important to note that an indeterminate result is quite different than a failed background check, and can occur for a variety of reasons that have nothing to do with criminal activity on behalf of the transferee. Indeterminate results can occur due to computer malfunctions, or other administrative errors.

Current law allows OSP three days to make a determination on a potential transferee's background check. If OSP fails to make a determination in this reasonable period of time, the transfer may occur anyways. The underlying SB 797 states that in the event of an indeterminate finding, the transfer of the firearm is permanently denied. Even the proposed -3 amendments, which essentially allow the transferee to appeal an indeterminate finding, place an undue burden on the transferee. If OSP are currently unable to perform background checks within a three day period, perhaps a better solution would be to slightly extend that timeline, rather than indefinitely extend it.

OGO understands, and supports, reasonable gun regulations. But SB 797 is not reasonable. Please oppose this bill.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sabrina Riggs', is written below the text 'Regards,'.

Sabrina Riggs  
Executive Director  
Oregon Gun Owners