

**From:** Denise Koschmann  
**To:** [SJUD Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** in support of SB 797  
**Date:** Saturday, April 15, 2017 8:20:18 AM

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Dear Senators,

I'm writing in support of SB 797. This bill will close deadly loopholes in our gun laws and keep guns out of the hands of violent criminals.

To the Senate Judiciary Committee: Please vote YES on SB 797. This bill will alert police officers when someone tries to buy a gun who shouldn't be, helping them do their jobs.  
I hope the Oregon Senate Judiciary Committee will pass SB 797. It will close the loopholes in our laws that allow domestic abusers and other dangerous people to buy guns.

In our country, the gun lobby's propaganda has convinced many people that reasonable gun control threatens the 2nd Amendment. This is simply not the case. As recent gun violence in the news (e.g., the shooting in San Bernardino) demonstrates, our children are not made safer when loopholes in gun laws allow violent offenders to own firearms. Currently, the Republican party's official policy related to children appears to be, "Every child should be born, but once they're here, they have no inherent right to life or health."

I am not a member of any party. I grew up in an area of the country where people hunted to feed their families. I am not anti-gun. But reasonable restrictions on gun ownership help keep people safe, just as reasonable restrictions on auto licensing keep our roads safe. Someone who has been convicted of domestic violence should not be able to obtain a gun. To allow them to do so is tantamount to saying that a victim's life is of less value than his or her abuser's 2nd Amendment rights. In our country, we are frequently in the position of balancing one right against another, and limiting the scope of one right to prevent the abrogation of another. The right to own a gun should not outweigh an individual's right to live, and to live in safety.

I hope that Oregon's legislature will support this common-sense bill, and help keep women and children safe.

Thank you,  
Denise Koschmann  
Portland, Oregon