

I would like to provide my comments to Senate Bill 978. I'm adamantly opposed to directing the Oregon State Police to study unlawful transfers. This is a waste of taxpayer dollars and is a political move not one that makes any sense or will in any meaningful change gun violence in Oregon or across America. The FBI already has this information. And, the reality is that we are never going to keep criminals from doing what they do. They do not follow the law and never will so having these types of studies is not going to stop or change criminals. Consistently enforce the laws that are already on the books. If anyone uses a weapon whether it be a gun, knife, bat, etc., impose the maximum penalty that the law allows.

I'm fed up with the Oregon Legislature trying everything they can to place draconian gun controls on law abiding citizens with the end result of potentially making felons from law abiding citizens who have served this country faithfully. There are sufficient gun laws, enforce what is on the books. It is senseless to have "gun-free zones" where law-abiding citizens are left defenseless against criminals who simply ignore such arbitrary boundaries. Deal with the mental health issues that are also associated with gun violence. I served ten years in the military and what the legislature is calling "assault rifles" in no way resembles or performs in the way military rifles (hence assault rifles) work. Yes, they look like military rifles but anyone that has actually shot an AR-15 understands the difference. Why do folks in the legislature that clearly have no experience with guns, have no training with guns, make such stupid statements that we continually see in the news. My answer given what I see is political expediency.

Sincerely,

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