

I urge you to support HB 2543, closing what is known as the Charleston Loophole allowing the purchase of a gun if the background check isn't completed within 3 days. Had the Charleston Loophole not existed, the shooter in SC would not have been cleared to buy a gun and wouldn't have murdered nine people at Mother Emmanuel Church in 2015. The majority of background checks (90%) clear within a matter of minutes, but 3% of these requests take longer than three days, and research has shown that those requests are 4x more likely to be denied for good reason. Passing HB 2543 would not impact the vast majority of gun purchasers who will pass the background check, and most Americans agree that background checks are part of responsible gun ownership. No one law will stop every murder or suicide, but closing the Charleston Loophole will absolutely help to save Oregonian lives.