Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding HB 2543.

As an Oregon resident, I am opposed HB 2543.

HB 2543 intends to prohibit the transfer of firearms by Federal Firearms Licensees (FFL) or private parties if Department of State Police does not complete their part of the background check process. Current laws already require law abiding citizens to submit for background checks. The law requires authorities to uphold their responsibility to respond within 3 days and issue an approval number for the transaction; failure to respond within the required time frame authorizes the Dealer or Private Citizen to go forward with the transaction. 

HB2543 eliminates the requirement of Oregon state authorities to respond (emphasis added); thus infringing upon law abiding Oregonian's 2nd amendment rights, while having no effect on criminal use of firearms. HB2543 completely removes this clearly defined time limit from the law, and allows for extended, perhaps indefinite delays in the purchase of firearms by law-abiding citizens due to the inability of the OSP to fulfill their legislatively mandated responsibilities.

The volatility we have seen on display in communities across our nation over the last year is proof that now is not the time to limit the ability of law abiding citizens to protect themselves and others in their community.

If this legislative body wishes to stop criminal use of firearms, introduce legislation to increase penalties to hold criminals accountable for their actions. Infringing upon law-abiding citizens will never solve the problem of criminal use of firearms.

Please uphold your Oath of Office and "...support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Oregon" by not enabling unnecessary bureaucracy to infringe upon the rights of law abiding citizens.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kevin Samuel Bend, OR