

My name is Maria Aron and I support HB 2543. There is a gap in our law that allows people who are legally prohibited from having guns to buy them at licensed gun dealers without passing a criminal background check. This loophole allows thousands of guns every year to slip into the hands of violent criminals, domestic abusers, and other people who shouldn't have access to guns. As gun sales have skyrocketed during the COVID-19 pandemic, the risk posed by this deadly loophole is at an all-time high. In the Portland metro area we have seen a massive surge in gun violence and statewide, we have seen a significant rise in domestic violence, often involving a gun. It is critical that lawmakers act swiftly to pass this bill and close the Charleston loophole in Oregon.