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To House Committee on Judiciary

Chair Bynum and Members of the Committee

In Support of HB 2543

This Bill would close a loophole in the current background check system that is part of the 2015 Oregon Firearm Safety Act.

The key word is “safety”. This loophole, also known as the “default proceed rule,” currently allows an unknown number of criminals and domestic abusers to illegally buy guns.

Recent numbers show that Oregon State Police Firearm Instant Checks have risen by 46 percent since March 2020, while rates of denial have gone down, and homicide shootings have increased by 36 percent.

These are numbers that reflect additional lives tragically lost to gun violence.

During these difficult times for everyone, many things in daily life have had to be compromised, but surely not the will to increase safety for every Oregonian.

Thank you,

Karin and Hans Radtke

Lane County