

Good morning Chair, members of the committee:

I'm a gun-owning Democrat and I oppose HB 2543. FFLs in Oregon already do not allow people to pick up firearms if they have not passed a background check. The law as written requires the State Police to process background checks instantly or as quickly as possible and incentivizes them to continue doing so.

During the covid pandemic tens of thousands of Oregonians have purchased a firearm for the first time and had to wait a long time to pick up their firearm due to backlogs with the State Police. We need more incentives for OSP to process background checks promptly, not fewer.

Women like me need to be able to defend ourselves and being able to promptly legally purchase a firearm is one of the key ways we are able to do so currently. Please do not take away one of the few avenues we have for our defense. Do not pass HB 2543 out of committee. Thank you for your time.