

Submitter: Dennis Kalnoky
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB348
Attn: Committee Members

Re: SB348

I am a Small Business owner, a happily married stepfather to two girls who attend Oregon public schools, and a University of Oregon graduate ('99). I am also a Person of Color (POC) who voted for Barrack Obama in the 2008 Presidential Election. I was most recently on the Board of my Neighborhood Association cooperating with Salem City Officials and Law Enforcement to build a better community. I am not an anti-government radical and I am not a member of an extremist/fringe or any subversive political group(s).

I am writing in opposition to SB348 for the following reasons:

1. A right deferred is a right denied. All Firearms purchasers must currently complete a Federal Form 4473 and pass a background check. Form 4473s are kept on file indefinitely and available to Law Enforcement upon request. A state-run permit scheme is redundant to Form 4473 and creates another legal pitfall for our most vulnerable citizens.
2. The fee for a state-run firearms permit is regressive and disproportionately hurts low income persons struggling with the cost of living.
3. A permit process does nothing to encumber the upper middle class of the "laptop economy" who live and work in safe communities, can work from home as needed, and take advantage of home delivery. A permit process unfairly targets Oregonians who can least afford and who have the greatest need for personal protection or harvesting wild game. The belief that permits and paperwork make all Oregonians safe is a luxury belief of the upper middle class. It is not the reality of many Oregonians. For many years it was not my reality.

I agree that we should strive to reduce violence in our communities. Oregon has strong gun safety laws, including a recent Safe Storage Law and a Red Flag Law. The Red Flag Law permits Law Enforcement to remove firearms from persons who are risk. Random gun violence is rarely random. How often are we taking advantage of these laws? Oregon must have the courage to affect the laws we already have.

The breakdown is not happening at the Point of Sale, it is happening after the sale. In

order to reduce violent crime in Oregon we must find ways to engage our young men, who are overwhelmingly responsible for gun crimes. Too many young men have become lost and alienated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Kalnoky
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